

July 7, 2003

Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1927

Re: Petition to Amend Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court
Relating to Admissions to the Bar

Petitioners: The Orange County Bar Association & Thomas B. Drage, Jr., Esq.
Case No.: SC02-2354

Dear Justices:

I am writing in support of the OCBA's Petition to Amend Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court Relating to Admission to the Bar (Case No.: SC02-2354). As a May 2000 graduate from the Barry University School of Law (hereinafter referred to as "Barry") I have a significant personal interest in the outcome of the petition.

I am a member of the inaugural class of students who enrolled in the University of Orlando School of Law (now Barry) in the Fall of 1995. I am now forty two years old and a third generation resident of Highlands County, Florida and have commuted approximately one hundred miles, one way, to attend classes 2 - 4 days per week for in excess of five years. I took the Florida Bar examination in July of 2000 and am presently re-enrolled at Barry due to the outcome of Barry's earlier attempts to obtain provisional accreditation. Since January of 1996 I have worked as a law clerk for a sole practitioner in Sebring, Florida, and, to the extent time would allow, have enjoyed raising my two minor children with my wife of eleven years.

In addition to the basis of and for the requested amendments as set forth in the above referenced petition, I request this Honorable Court to consider the inequitable result of Barry's attempts to attain provisional accreditation which have only resulted in a denial of access to the Florida Bar examination and, where appropriate, admission to the Florida Bar for me and my similarly situated fellow classmates. Barry continues essentially unhindered while we, over whom it attained provisional accreditation, continue to suffer.

Implementation of either of the proposals submitted by the subject petition would ensure future students of the law schools of FAMU and FIU would not suffer the same inequities we students of Barry are forced to endure. I would urge this Honorable Court to ensure that those of us caught in this conflict be afforded further relief in the form of the release of the results of our bar examination attempts and, where appropriate, admission to the Florida Bar.

Thank you for your considerations.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Parke Sutherland

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail to attorney for petitioners, Mathew D. Staver, Esquire, 210 Palmetto Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750 on this _____ day of July, 2003.

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