

Supreme Court of Florida

July 10, 2003

Page 1

July 10, 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., Esquire  
Case No.: SC02-2354

Dear Your Honors:

Please accept this letter as my support to modify the existing 12-month rule with regard to accreditation of law schools. I am one of the 109 Barry Law University students that have been unfairly denied the ability to achieve my dream of becoming a lawyer.

I understand that when I initially enrolled at the law school that it did not have the necessary accreditation. Actually, as I understand it, whenever a brand new law school opens the doors, then it does so without being accredited. However, until a law school receives the appropriate accreditation, it is still required to operate just like any other law school and students must pass the same rigors as students at other schools. People often say that I knew of the risks going to the new law school, but so does everyone that goes to a brand new law school. I'm sure the initial law students of Stetson, Nova and St. Thomas knew of the risks with their schools being un-accredited, yet I'm sure that everything turned out just fine for them.

This whole mess due to the 12-month rule on accreditation is ridiculous. I graduated law school in the recommended three years in June of 2000. I took the Bar Exam in July of 2000 and have yet to be able to even view my scores. I even took the ethics exam in August of 2000 (which I passed) and I was determined to be fit by the Florida Bar to practice law, pursuant to my background check. However, it is now three years later and I am still waiting for any word on admittance to the Florida Bar. The only admittance I received, was a re-admittance into law school which I am now being forced to do over all again. How absurd is it that I am sitting through the same classes and re-obtaining the same degree that I have hanging on the wall above me.

I don't know how much more of this my family or I can take. I have jumped through every hoop asked of me when it comes to obtaining my Bar License. Please modify the existing 12-month rule so myself of future students of new law schools don't throw away years and money attempting to become a lawyer.

Sincerely,

Scott P. Kiernan

SPK

Supreme Court of Florida  
July 10, 2003  
Page 2

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, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott P. Kiernan