

Barbara J. Paulson, CP

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September 6, 2006

Thomas D. Hall, Clerk
The Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

Re: Case No.: SC06-1622

In Re: Amendments to the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar to add Chapter 20 – Florida Registered Paralegal Program

Dear Mr. Hall:

I write to support the addition of proposed Rule 20, the Florida Registered Paralegal Program, to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

I have been a NALA certified paralegal since May, 1993. I have proudly served the State of Florida as a paralegal in the Attorney General's Office since January, 1993, and as one of its senior paralegals since March, 1999. Prior to 1993, I performed paralegal duties under the supervision of an attorney for the Department of Natural Resources in Tallahassee, a small law firm in Jacksonville, and a savings and loan association in Jacksonville. My total paralegal experience is approximately 20 years.

I strongly believe in regulation of our profession by The Florida Bar. While I would have preferred such regulation to be mandatory (as it is for lawyers) in order to place all paralegals practicing in the State of Florida on the same professional footing (with room for growth and specialty designation recognition), I believe that the proposed Rule 20 is at least a step in the right direction. I therefore support the adoption of the proposed Rule 20, the Florida Registered Paralegal Program, by the Florida Supreme Court.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Barbara J. Paulson, CP
Certified Paralegal and
Senior Legal Assistant
Office of the Attorney General

cc: John Harness, Executive Director, The Florida Bar
Johnna A. Phillips, CP, President, Paralegal Association of Florida, Inc.