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Ms. Helen Edgington, Chair
Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board
C/O Lewis Unglesby
246 Napoleon Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Chairperson Edgington and Members of the Disciplinary Board:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Larry S. Bankston, who has a disciplinary hearing scheduled for July 26, 2000.

I have known the Bankston family since the early 1970's. In the early 1970's, my contacts were mostly with Larry's father. After beginning my political career in the Constitutional Convention in the year 1973 and continuing with the State Senate through the years 1976-1996, I had occasion to follow the career of Larry Bankston.

If my memory is correct, Larry came to the Louisiana State Senate in 1987 when Buddy Roemer was elected Governor. It was at this point that I came to know Larry on a personal basis, became very good friends; and developed an extremely close working relationship.

Larry Bankston was selected as the Outstanding Professional Legislator after his election, and participated as a floor leader for Governor Buddy Roemer. Larry, at the beginning of his second term, attained the status of Chairman of the Judiciary B Committee in the Louisiana State Senate, and served in a prominent leadership position.

It is with all probability that Larry's Chairmanship of the Judiciary B Committee led to his legal problems regarding the gaming investigations in the State of Louisiana. The Judiciary B Committee handles all gaming bills. Larry was instrumental in working out many of the various problems facing the legislature in the gaming areas, thereby throwing him into close contact with constituents and citizens owning, operating or having an interest in gaming enterprises within the State of Louisiana.

Larry's conviction was based upon the barest of minimum culpability. Though he was charged with numerous counts, he was found guilty of the rental of a condo in Alabama. The indictments nor the conviction on one (1) count in any way involved the practice of law. Larry has no prior disciplinary record with the Bar Association and has always maintained an outstanding reputation in the law community. The alleged crime for which

Page 2

Ms. Helen Edgington and Board
July 19, 2000

he was found guilty in involved no loss of funds from clients nor from the State of Louisiana.

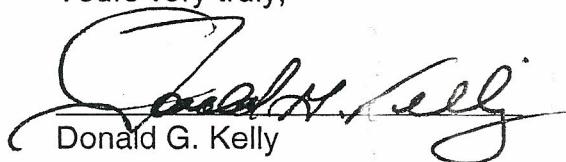
I would humbly suggest to this Honorable Chairperson and Board that Larry has sustained the imposition of sufficient penalties in this case by receiving a 41 month sentence. Larry had 31 long and difficult months of being away from family, friends and his profession while incarcerated in a Federal facility at Beaumont, Texas.

During Larry's incarceration, he and I maintained contact. It is obvious to me that he is most remorseful of the situation that has caused he and his family the strain of financial loss, the loss of his good name, and the disappointment he has caused the institutions and citizens of the State of Louisiana.

The bottom line of this lengthy letter concerning my friend, Larry Bankston, is to say that I think his case warrants consideration of the above mitigating factors. Accordingly, I would respectfully request that this Honorable Board consider suspension of Larry's license for a reasonable time period rather than disbarment.

Your kindly consideration of this letter and request is greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,



Donald G. Kelly

DGK:kmt