

**CHARLES J. MELANCON**

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July 20, 2000

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

Re: Larry S Bankston  
Hearing Date of July 26, 2000

Dear Ms. Edgington:

Having served as an Assumption Parish Democratic Committeemen, on the Louisiana State Democratic Central Committee from District 60, and as the former State Representative of District 60, I have come to know Larry Bankston quite well. For that reason, I write this letter on his behalf.

I am hopeful that the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board would look favorably upon Larry's request to maintain his license to practice law in Louisiana. While not fully informed on all of the circumstances surrounding his past convictions, I do know that Larry dealings, personally and as that of an attorney have been forthright. I, and others who have known Larry well, might feel that he was unjustly prosecuted. But, that is not the issue presently at hand and to dwell on the events and circumstances is not relevant.

What is relevant, however, is that Larry has never, prior to this episode, had any disciplinary record or problems. He has been an outstanding member of his community, having served actively in the Baton Rouge Civic Community for many years. The conviction of Larry that brings on this hearing had nothing to do with Larry's actions as a practicing attorney. He has never been accused of misuse or misappropriations of clients funds. His reputation as a practicing attorney within, and outside of the legal community has always been excellent. And, most importantly, Larry is ready to move his and his family's life forward in a positive manner.

With that, I ask that the Disciplinary Board look favorably upon Larry Bankston's request. He is an exceptional person and an accomplished lawyer who can do well for his legal clients now and into the future, but, only if you will give him that opportunity. I humbly beg of you to do so. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Charles J. Melancon