

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

Dear Ms. Edgington:

I'm writing this letter to ask the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board to refrain from taking action regarding disbarment of Larry Bankston at the July 26 hearing. I would ask that the Board consider the numerous mitigating factors in reviewing Mr. Bankston's case that make disbarment an extreme option for the Board.

I have known Larry Bankston for most of my life. I considered and still consider him somewhat of a mentor for my career and I'm grateful to him for the confidence he had in me.

I worked alongside Mr. Bankston on numerous political campaigns and ultimately represented Mr. Bankston in his successful 1991 Senate campaign. Our sons attended kindergarten through 12th grade together and graduated from University High School this year. I have coached tee-ball with Mr. Bankston and watched as he coached my son for many years in baseball and basketball as a volunteer coach.

I know Larry Bankston has paid a substantial personal and professional price for the crime for which he was convicted. He is still serving his sentence of 41 months.

However, his crime did not involve the loss of funds by clients and did not involve the practice of law. A practice of law, which prior to his conviction, contained no blemishes and no disciplinary actions against him. Larry Bankston had an outstanding reputation in the legal community.

These factors, coupled with Larry's publicly expressed remorse and his previously mentioned community service and involvement, should weigh in his favor to end the punishment and penalties.

I urge the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board to refrain from disbarring Larry Bankston and to allow him to practice the profession for which he has devoted most of life and for which he is trained.

Thank you for considering my opinion and allowing me this opportunity to express my support for Mr. Bankston in this matter.

Sincerely,


Michael Beychow