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July 13, 2000

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

Re: In Re: Larry S. Bankston

Dear Ms. Edgington:

I urge you to allow Larry to return to the practice of law at the earliest opportunity.

The facts surrounding what he did/did not do, the trial, etc. are of my personal knowledge--his conviction was a travesty--it revolved around \$1,500 rental of a condominium paid to a realtor who did not refund it. Never was there any allegation proven that he took any action benefitting anyone in the indictment.

Nothing dealt with him as an attorney.

He is a very intelligent and bright yet compassionate person. He was an asset to the legal profession, an excellent legislator and is a natural leader.

As a lawyer and legislator, he was viewed as extremely competent, credible, articulate, intelligent and effective by lawyers, legislators and staff, as well as lobbyists. No one has ever questioned these attributes to this date.

Exemplary community service is abundantly revealed in his record, including women's issues, the mentally retarded, and our less fortunate.

His 41-month sentence was more than enough sanction to warrant full credit against any sanction the Board feels appropriate.

Sincerely,


Armand J. Brinkhaus

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