

July 25, 2003

Re: Continuing Developments

Dear Students:

I would like to update you on Western State's bid for full accreditation by the American Bar Association ("ABA"). As I reported to you last month, the Accreditation Council of the ABA declined to grant full approval. Subject to further consideration this fall, it also declined to grant an extension of provisional approval. The full text of the Accreditation Council's decision is enclosed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact anyone in the administration. We would be happy to talk with you.

Western State continues to be provisionally approved just as it was when you started. According to ABA policy, this means that you are entitled to all the rights and benefits of a graduate of an ABA approved law school when you graduate within a normal period of time. The ABA's policy states,

"The ABA Standards and Interpretations state that a student who graduates from a school that is provisionally approved at any time during the student's matriculation, and who completes the required course of study in the normal period of time required to earn the degree, is entitled to the same recognition given to graduates of fully approved schools. This applies whether or not the School was provisionally approved at the time the student first enrolled, whether or not the School receives full approval, and whether the School loses its approval while the student is enrolled but prior to graduation. In all of those circumstances, the ABA will deem the student to have graduated from an ABA approved school."

We intend to make every effort possible to ensure that Western State achieves full accreditation. To this end, we have appealed the June decision to the House of Delegates, which is the governing body of the ABA. We expect the appeal to be heard in February.

I think you should know that as you return, you will be joined by an exceptional incoming class. As measured by GPA and LSAT scores, their collective qualifications are higher than any class admitted since we received provisional accreditation from the

