



**Section of Legal Education
and Admissions to the Bar**

COUNCIL DECISION

NOTICE OF PROBATION AND SPECIFIC REMEDIAL ACTION

Charlotte School of Law

October 2016

Background

At its October 20-22, 2016 meeting, the Council conducted a hearing pursuant to Rules of Procedure 2, 15 through 17, and 23 through 25 with respect to the compliance of the Charlotte School of Law (the “Law School”) with ABA Standards 301(a), 501(a), and 501(b). This hearing was on the appeal by the Law School from the June 2016 Decision Letter of the Accreditation Committee (the “Committee”), which concluded that the Law School i) had not demonstrated compliance with these Standards; and, consequently, ii) must take specific remedial actions.

Following the hearing, consideration of the appeal, and based on the record, the Council affirmed the Committee’s conclusions that the Law School is not in compliance with Standards 301(a), 501(a), and 501(b). Further, the Council has placed the Law School on probation, and has directed the Law School to take the following specific remedial actions, including, but not limited to, this notice.

Probationary Status of Charlotte School of Law
and
Remedial Actions Required

Pursuant to Rules 2(f), 16, and 25(b), the Council has placed the Charlotte School of Law on probation, effective November 14, 2016, the date of transmission of the Council’s October 2016 Decision Letter to the Law School, and has directed the Law School to take the following specific remedial actions:

- (1) The Law School shall develop a written reliable plan for bringing the Law School into compliance with Standards 301(a), 501(a), and 501(b). In developing its plan, the Law School must address each of the factors identified in Interpretation 501-1

and demonstrate that the actions described in the plan will positively affect those factors. The Law School shall submit that plan to the Managing Director by December 15, 2016.

- (2) The Law School shall, by December 15, 2016, supply to the Committee its admissions data and admissions methodology, which includes the Law School's admissions practices and policies, for the fall 2017 entering class. Where factors other than grade point average and LSAT are used to support an admissions decision, the Law School shall report those factors, explain how they are determined and applied in the review of applicant files, and report on any analyses that have been done or are contemplated to review the outcomes of admissions decisions based on these factors.
- (3) The Law School shall, within five business days of the date of the Decision Letter reporting the Council's October 2016 decision to the Law School, provide to all admitted students and publish prominently on its website in a place and manner acceptable to the Managing Director a statement advising that the Law School has been placed on probation and of the specific remedial actions the Law School is required to take.
- (4) Until the Law School is determined by the Accreditation Committee or the Council to be operating in compliance with Standards 301(a), 501(a), and 501(b), each semester, within 30 days of the completion of the assignment and distribution of semester grades for the Law School's students, the Law School shall advise each Law School student, in writing, of the following, in the same communication: (a) the North and South Carolina first-time bar examination passage rates, by class quartiles, for Law School graduates sitting for the North and South Carolina bar examinations over the six administrations preceding the semester for which results are known; and (b) the class quartile into which the student then falls. The Law School shall provide evidence to the Managing Director's office, within five days of its distribution to students, that the required information has been appropriately and timely communicated.

Pursuant to Rule 53(c)(4) and (5) and Internal Operating Procedure 4 of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, the Managing Director is directed to provide public notification of this Decision of the Council to place the Law School on probation and to impose specific remedial actions on the Law School within 24 hours of the time the Managing Director notifies the Law School of the Council's decision.

Further and pursuant to Rule 9 and Rule 12, the Council directs that the Managing Director appoint a fact finder to visit the Law School. The fact finder shall submit a report regarding the above matters to the Managing Director. The report will be delivered to the Law School, which shall have 30 days to submit a response. The Committee will evaluate the Law School's compliance with Standards 301(a), 501(a), and 501(b) based on the record, the fact finder's report, and the Law School's response. If, after considering the fact finder's report and the Law School's response, the Committee concludes that the Law School is not in compliance with Standards 301(a), 501(a), or 501(b), the Committee and Council may take any further appropriate action pursuant to Rules 12(b) and 16-18.