



ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE DECISION

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIFIC REMEDIAL ACTION

Florida Coastal School of Law

March 2018

Background

At its March 15-17, 2018 meeting, the Accreditation Committee of the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (the “Committee”) conducted a hearing pursuant to Rules of Procedure 2, 3, 14, 16-18, 20, and 21 with respect to the compliance of Florida Coastal School of Law (the “Law School”) with ABA Standards 301(a), 309(b), and 501(a) and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1.

Following the hearing and based on the record, the Committee concluded that the Law School is in compliance with Standard 501(a). The Committee further concluded that the Law School remains in non-compliance with Standards 301(a), 309(b), and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1, and has directed the Law School to take the following specific remedial actions, including, but not limited to, this public notice.

Remedial Actions Required

Pursuant to its authority under Rules 3(c) and 21(c), the Committee has directed that Florida Coastal School of Law take the following specific remedial actions:

- (a) The Law School shall develop a written reliable plan for bringing itself into compliance with Standards 301(a), 309(b), and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1. In developing its plan, the Law School must address, inter alia, each of the factors identified in Interpretation 501-1. In addition, the reliable plan must include the Law School’s admissions data and methodology, including its admissions practices and policies, for the fall 2018 entering class. Where factors other than undergraduate grade point average and LSAT are used to support an admission 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. The Law School shall submit that plan to the Managing Director by October 1, 2018.

- (b) The Law School shall, within five business days of the date of the letter reporting the Committee's March 2018 decision to the Law School, provide to all admitted students and publish on its website along with other ABA disclosures this appendix of the specific remedial action the Law School is required to take. This appendix, or a link to the statement on the Law School's website, shall also be published on the website of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.
- (c) Until the Law School is determined by the Committee to be operating in compliance with Standards 301(a), 309(b), and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1, 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 student, in writing, of the following, in the same communication: (a) the Florida and Georgia first-time bar examination passage rates, by class quartiles, for Law School graduates sitting for the Florida and Georgia bar examinations over the six administrations preceding the semester; (b) the class quartile in which the student then falls; and (c) attrition rates. (For example, at the conclusion of the spring 2018 semester, the Law School would advise its students of the results from the last six administrations of the Florida and Georgia bar examinations, through the February 2018 bar examination.) 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.

Further and pursuant to Rules 3(c) and 21(c), the Managing Director shall appoint a fact finder to visit the Law School to review the admissions data and admissions methodology provided by the Law School, as well as the overall rigor of its program of legal education. The Committee will conduct a hearing pursuant to Rule 18, at a date, time, and location to be identified, in order to monitor the Law School's compliance with the requirements for remedial action and to evaluate the Law School's compliance with Standards 301(a), 309(b), and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1, based on the record, the Law School's reliable plan, 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), 309(b), and 501(b) and Interpretation 501-1, and/or is non-compliant with the requirements for remedial action, the Committee and the Council may take any appropriate action pursuant to Rules of Procedure 12(b) and 16-18.

This decision is subject to appeal under Rules 15(b), 23, and 24 of the Rules of Procedure.