U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CONTINUES RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL’S ACCREDITING AUTHORITY

The United States Department of Education has continued the authority of the Council of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar to accredit first-professional degrees in law (the J.D. degree) and freestanding law schools offering such programs.

The letter is available HERE.

Barry Currier, Managing Director of Accreditation and Legal Education at the ABA said:

“We were gratified to receive a letter today from the Department of Education continuing the recognition of the accrediting authority of the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, subject to the requirement that we report back and establish our compliance with the five specific concerns that had been identified by the department staff in its June 2016 final report.

“We appreciate the conclusion in the letter that the evidence in the record did not support the conclusion and recommendation of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) that we were not in compliance with other recognition requirements.

“We intend to comply with the requirements of the letter within the time frame provided. Further, we understand and acknowledge the concerns raised by NACIQI members at the hearing on June 22. The Council will continue to work constructively, with law schools and the profession, on those issues.”

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