May 19, 2017

Dr. Satish K. Tripathi
President
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York
501 Capen Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260

Interim Dean James Gardner
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York
School of Law
319 O’Brian Hall
North Campus
Buffalo, NY 14260

Dear President Tripathi and Dean Gardner:

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Education regulations applicable to recognized accrediting agencies, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is required to post a letter describing the basis for an action when the Accreditation Committee:

1) concludes that a law school is not in compliance with identified ABA Standards pursuant to Rule 12(a)(4);

2) requests that the Law School submit a report, with all relevant information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the identified ABA Standards; and

3) requests the Law School to appear before the Committee, to determine whether to impose sanctions in connection with the Law School’s noncompliance with the identified ABA Standards, if the written report does not demonstrate compliance with the Standards.

At its April 20-21, 2017 meeting, the Accreditation Committee considered the status of the University at Buffalo School of Law (the "Law School"), and concluded that the Law School is not in compliance with the following Standards:

(a) Standard 202(a) and Interpretation 202-1, with respect to the requirement that the current and anticipated financial resources of the Law School shall be sufficient to operate carry out its program of legal education.

(b) Standard 502(d) and Standard 502-1, with respect to the requirement that, within a reasonable time after a student registers, the Law School shall have on file the student’s official transcripts verifying all academic credits undertaken and degree(s) conferred.
The Law School has been asked to submit a report and to appear before the Accreditation Committee as noted above. If the information provided in the written report demonstrates compliance with the Standard listed above, then the Committee may find the Law School to be in compliance with the Standard and cancel the hearing.

This letter will be posted on our website to comply with the Department of Education regulations until the matter is resolved.

A law school that is approved by the American Bar Association continues in that status pending final action by the Accreditation Committee and Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

Please feel free to call me, Deputy Managing Director William E. Adams, Jr., or Executive Assistant Cathy A. Schrage if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Barry A. Currier  
Managing Director of Accreditation and Legal Education

BAC/sg