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William A. Neumann
Executive Director

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April 23, 2013

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

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Chief Justice Gerald W. VandeWalle and
Supreme Court Justices Sandstrom, Maring, Kapsner, and Crothers
North Dakota Supreme Court
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck ND 58505-0530

Dear Chief Justice and Justices:


Representatives of the Lawyer Assistance Program Committee appeared at the SBAND Board of Governors' meeting on April 20, 2013. They outlined a proposal to offer the Committee's peer assistance, evaluation and mentoring services to students at the UND School of Law, and asked for the Board's support. Law School Dean Kathryn Rand told the Board the Committee's proposal has the strong support of the Law School. After favorable discussion, the Board gave the proposal its unanimous approval.

Because the Lawyer Assistance Program Committee is established by the Supreme Court under Rule 6.6 of the North Dakota Rules for Lawyer Discipline and Administrative Rule 49, the Board asked me to inform you of the Committee's proposal and of the Board's strong support.

We hope the proposal meets with your approval. As you know, members of our profession experience a high incidence of addictive behavior and other mental and emotional problems. Both the Committee and the Board believe this proposal serves our profession by affording early help, guidance, diversion and support to those seeking to become lawyers.

If you have any questions about the Committee's proposal or the Board's action approving it, please feel free to contact either me or Committee Chair John Olson. We will be happy to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,


William A. Neumann
Executive Director

c: John Olson