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WEEK OF

March 23, 1988

SPECIAL EDITION OF THE TOURO TIMES: THE ABA INSPECTION

The concluding meetings with the ABA Inspection Team all were quite positive. The Team was satisfied that we had dealt with the issue of an endowment. Of course, the Team expressed the hope that the endowment would continue to grow.

The Team was pleased with the improvement of our bar passage rate and the various steps we are taking to improve that rate. Special note was made of the tightening of academic standards and current academic rules. Again, the Team looked to the future and expressed hope that our passage rate will continue to improve.

Faculty scholarship was complimented and the Team was impressed with the overall quality of teaching at the Law School.

The inspectors were well disposed to the plans we have to increasing library shelving space. They urged that the task be done in a timely fashion and we assured them we would keep the ABA apprised of our progress.

In addition to the major areas discussed above, they complimented us on the appearance of our building, the quality of our library collection, the enthusiasm of the students with whom they met and to whom they spoke, and the activities of the Placement and Admissions Offices.

Overall, the reaction of the Inspection Team was most encouraging. Their task now is to write a factual report. We will have an opportunity to comment on the report and to submit supplementary material. The report then is transmitted to the Accreditation Committee which meets to consider the report at the end of June. The recommendation of that Committee is critical to whether we receive full approval when the ABA's House of Delegates meets in August.

My own assessment is that there is every reason to be optimistic. That does not mean we can let up in our efforts one bit. To the extent we can show some additional accomplishments by June, that will be all to our credit.

Everyone in the Touro Community extended themselves for the inspection. The faculty, administrators and staff all worked extremely hard to prepare for the inspection. Nor was it a surprise to me that the inspectors were impressed with our student body. This is an impressive school and I am glad that the inspectors saw it in such a good light.