



THE FLORIDA BAR

1200 EDGEWATER DRIVE
ORLANDO, FL 32804-6314

LAWYER REGULATION DEPARTMENT 407/425-5424
UPL DEPARTMENT 407/425-0473
WWW.FLABAR.ORG

JOHN F. HARKNESS, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 27, 2010

Hardy Owen Pickard
Attorney No. 148582
400 W. Beacon Road, Apt. 204
Lakeland, Florida 33803-7253

RE: Complaint by The Florida Bar
Case No. 2010-30,954(10B)

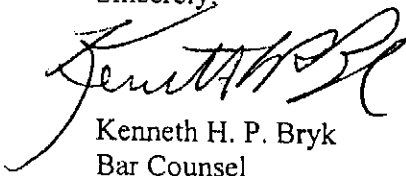
Dear Mr. Pickard:

The bar has reviewed the order of the Supreme Court of Florida, dated January 14, 2010, in Paul Beasley Johnson v. State of Florida, SC08-1213, the subject of which has given rise to an investigation as to possible attorney misconduct. As a result, the above-referenced file was opened where The Florida Bar is the complainant.

According to the order and reports in the local news media, you served as an Assistant State Attorney for the Office of the State Attorney, Tenth Judicial Circuit, for approximately 35 years. You were the prosecutor in the first trial of Mr. Johnson. The Court found that you "knowingly used false testimony and misleading argument to convince the court to admit the testimony." In sum and substance, the Court vacated Mr. Johnson's death sentence due, in part, to your deliberate, prosecutorial misconduct.

Please respond directly to me within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this letter and present your position. You are obligated to provide the undersigned with a written response pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-8.4(g), and you are required to disclose to your employer or former employer the existence and nature of this inquiry. Please fill out and return the enclosed disclosure form, using the above case number on all correspondence to this office.

Sincerely,



Kenneth H. P. Bryk
Bar Counsel

KHPB/smr

PUBLIC RECORD

Ex. - C