

August 6, 2020

Via e-mail to etarbert@floridabar.org

Task Force on Distribution of IOTA Funds
c/o Elizabeth Tarbert, Ethics Counsel
The Florida Bar
651 East Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

Re: Task Force on Distribution of IOTA Funds- June 12, 2020
Subcommittee Report

Dear Task Force Members:

We write as members of The Florida Bar who also are Past Presidents of The Florida Bar. We endorse the July 14, 2020 letter submitted to the Task Force by the Past Presidents of the Florida Bar Foundation.

We remain committed to ensuring that the mission of the Florida Bar Foundation, as established by the Florida Supreme Court, is carried out and that low-income Floridians facing serious civil legal problems are well served. These are most critical and uncertain economic times. We support all efforts to improve the administration and delivery of IOTA funds in a fashion which best serves low income Floridians.

We have reviewed the joint amendment to Rule 5-1.1(g) submitted by Florida Civil Legal Aid Association and the Florida Bar Foundation on July 10, 2020 as revised on July 22, 2020 as well as the rule proposed by the Task Force. Should the Court determine a change needs to be made we support the joint proposal submitted by the Florida Civil Legal Aid Association and the Florida Bar Foundation. The joint rule amendment gives the Supreme Court direct control, and by keeping the Foundation as a single administrator, ensures the Foundation can function in a practical and efficient way to disburse funds and will maximize collection of IOTA funds. All of this is to ensure that the poor do not have disruptions in access to legal help. This is a rule that the legal service providers believe would best assist them in providing much needed legal services.

Respectfully Submitted,

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President 2002 – 2003

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President 1997 – 1998

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President 2005 – 2006

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Alan T. Dimond
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President 1986 – 1987

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President 1993 – 1994

Michelle R. Suskauer
President 2018 – 2019

Burton Young
President 1970 – 1971

Gwynne Alice Young
President 2012 – 2013

Stephen N. Zack
President 1989 – 1990

cc: Dori Foster-Morales, President The Florida Bar
Michael Tanner, President Elect, The Florida Bar
John Stewart, Past President, The Florida Bar
Joshua Doyle, Executive Director, The Florida Bar
Mayanne Downs, Chair Task Force, Past President The Florida Bar
Dominic Mackenzie, Executive Director, The Florida Bar Foundation
Hala Sandridge, President, The Florida Bar Foundation
Elizabeth Tarbert, Ethics Counsel, The Florida Bar