

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Section of Legal Education  
and Admissions to the Bar

Office of the Consultant on  
Legal Education to the  
American Bar Association

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December 20, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Deans of ABA-Approved Law Schools  
University Presidents  
Chief Justices of State Supreme Courts  
Bar Admission Authorities  
Licensing Agency for the State of Tennessee:  
Tennessee Higher Education Commission  
U. S. Department of Education  
Deans of Unapproved Law Schools  
Leaders of Organizations Interested in Legal Education  
Student Bar Association Presidents  
ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar –  
Website Posting

**FROM:** Hulett H. Askew, Consultant on Legal Education  
to the American Bar Association

**SUBJECT:** **Lincoln Memorial University, Duncan School of Law**

At its December 2-3, 2011 meeting, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association denied the application for provisional ABA approval submitted by Lincoln Memorial University, Duncan School of Law, located in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Lincoln Memorial University, Duncan School of Law, was notified in writing of the Council's decision on December 20, 2011. Pursuant to ABA Internal Operating Practice 5 of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, this public memorandum is being issued within 24 hours of the time the School was notified of the Council's decision.

Rule 10 of the ABA Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools provides for a right of appeal in the event of an adverse approval decision of the Council. The appeal must be written, must be submitted within 30 days, and must conform to the specific requirements of Rule 10. If an appeal is submitted by the School to the Consultant's Office, and filed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10, by January 19, 2012, the appeal will be considered by an Appeals Panel and the Council's December 2011 decision will be stayed pending the specific procedures and the final outcome of the School's approval status, as outlined in Rule 10.

**cc:** Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar  
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Dean Sydney A. Beckman

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