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Vivian Reyes  
Dade County Bar Association  
123 N.W. First Street  
Suite 214  
Miami, Florida 33128

Re: H.T. Smith, Esq.

Dear Ms. Reyes:

I am writing in support of awarding H.T. Smith, Esq. the David Dyer Professionalism Award. I have known H.T. for over 40 years. The time is significant. In 1968, I was a law student at the University of Miami, which is also H.T.'s alma mater. A law student named Harold Long applied for membership to the legal fraternity of which I was a member.

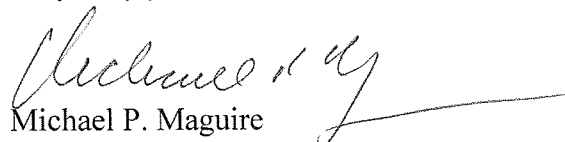
The head of the National Fraternity as well as a Dade County Circuit Court Judge visited our chapter and told us point blank that if Harold was admitted, the chapter would lose its charter and there would also be consequences for those who voted to admit him. Harold Long's crime was that he was not white. It was in an atmosphere like this that H.T. attended and succeeded as a law student. He later became partners with Howard Long.

There are many successful attorneys who would be worthy of the Dyer Award but none who have had to become successful while fighting the bigotry and prejudice that H.T. has had to endure.

H.T. Smith has always been the epitome of what an attorney should be. He has overcome obstacles that few other attorneys have ever had to deal with. Yet he has always remained a consummate professional.

I know Judge Dyer and I think he would be thrilled if the award went to any attorney like H.T. Smith.

Very truly yours,

  
Michael P. Maguire

MPM/mda