

March 24, 2008

Re: ABA Law Student Division Mental Health Initiative

Dear Law School Deans and SBA Presidents:

It is my pleasure to introduce the American Bar Association Law Student Division 2008 Mental Health Initiative. At the ABA Annual Meeting last August in San Francisco, many SBA Presidents and student leaders expressed concern about the lack of attention being paid to law student mental health issues.

The Law Student Division has responded by launching a national Mental Health Initiative aimed at increasing awareness of law student mental health issues and educating students on effective and healthy ways to cope with the stressors of law school. Indeed, this is a campaign designed to increase awareness. If we teach students to become aware of these stressors, law students can make life changes and achieve immediate results.

This toolkit is the culmination of months of coordination amongst law student leaders, mental health practitioners, and faculty. But our work starts now. As student and faculty leaders, we must be sure to disseminate this information to our student bodies.

An effort of this nature must extend beyond one year, and so we are encouraged that many law student and ABA leaders have pledged to make sure this initiative is implemented and developed in their law schools.

With best regards,



Daniel R. Suvor
Chair, ABA Law Student Division