

1851 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 518-8081

April 6, 1998

Alice Gresham Bullock, Dean
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

I trust this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. As a student leader, member of the HOWARD LAW JOURNAL, friend of the law school, and future double alum of the University, I am writing to ask that you consider Professor Dawn V. Martin as a full-time professor of the Howard University School of Law faculty.

I have known Professor Martin since she came to the law school in the Fall of 1996. Since then, I have had the opportunity to get to know her as a professor, mentor and friend. During her tenure here I have had the extreme pleasure to have taken Professor Martin for three courses: Torts I, Torts II and Evidence. Over the course of this period, I have been extremely impressed with her dedication to teaching, commitment to excellence in her field, scholarly production and sincere care for the students whom she teaches.

Before deciding to attend Howard, I had an opportunity to attend several other law schools. I chose Howard over all others for several reasons—one of which was the high esteem that I have for the professors at Howard Law. Upon taking Professor Martin's courses, I knew that I had made the right decision. She goes the *extra mile* each and every day. On many occasions, she has stayed after class to answer questions that students had. She has spent extra time outside of the class time to hold review sessions with students. She has been a model when it comes to providing sample tests for students to view in the library prior to the exam period. She has mentored and assisted students with their legal careers. In sum, Professor Dawn V. Martin is by all accounts, one of the best professors at our law school.

Another reason that I am writing to express my support for Professor Martin to remain at the law school is because of her impeccable academic record. She has over 13 years of practical experience in the field of Civil Rights law with the Justice Department, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and New York State Office of the Attorney General. She has over four years of teaching experience at the law school level. She has published scholarly articles in several law reviews. Most recently, an article that she has written on the American with Disabilities Act with Respect to the Hiring Policies of Police and Fire Departments has been accepted for publication in the New York University Journal of Legislation and Policy. While our law school prides itself in our rich history of providing opportunities for top African-

April 6, 1998

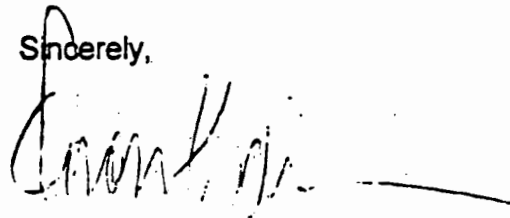
American legal scholars, we must continue to bring in new and bright minds that will make up the next phase in our story. Dawn V. Martin is truly one of these new and bright minds. We should use all of the resources in our power to keep this truly bright Professor. With the recent grant that our law school received from the Department of Agriculture to be used for Civil Rights, I am sure that we do not want to let go of a person with such a strong Civil Rights background. Don't you agree?

Over two years ago when we extended an offer to Professor Martin to teach here at the law school, we were continuing in the right path toward recruiting and attracting top legal scholars to our school. By not extending Professor Martin a full-time professorship position, I believe that we are taking a step in the wrong direction. Professor Martin is loved by many in the law school—students, faculty and staff alike. This can clearly be seen by the petition that was circulated and delivered to you earlier this semester in which the signatures of over one third of the law school appeared.

Dean Bullock, let us continue to move forward and extend an offer to Professor Dawn Martin to become a full-time professor at our law school. We have a commitment to ensuring that we remain competitive and retain the most qualified professors here at Howard Law. By retaining Professor Dawn V. Martin, we will send a signal to everyone in our law school family—students, professors, staff, alumni, and other members of the bar—that we are well on our way back to the top of academic excellence.

Thank you for your time. With warmest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omar Karim", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Omar Karim
Howard University School of Law
Class of 1999

cc: Dawn V. Martin

4850 Connecticut Ave, N.W.
Apt. 904
Washington, D.C. 20008

April 9, 1998

Alice Gresham Bullock, Dean
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

My name is Mieka Cherron-Marie Dorsey, and I am the Vice-President of the Class of 1999. I am also the Clerk of Phi Alpha Delta, International, Langston Chapter, and a member of the Howard Public Interest Law Society. I am writing to you regarding the employment status of Professor Dawn V. Martin, in the hopes that you will seriously re-consider your decision not to continue her vocation here at Howard Law.

I have had the privilege of being a student in Professor Martin's class in three courses: Torts I, Torts II, and Evidence. During those three semesters, Professor Martin was very helpful to her students both inside and outside of class. When students struggled with concepts during class, Professor Martin took the time to explain the topics for the benefit of the whole class during the class hour. Additionally, if students needed extra tutorial outside of class, Professor Martin was very accessible and often extended her time allotted for students far beyond her scheduled office hours. Professor Martin was always professional in class, but at the same time she was personable so that students felt comfortable coming to her office to ask for help.

Not only has Professor Martin had a great impact on my academic life as an outstanding professor, but she has also had a substantial impact on my personal life as a phenomenal woman. As you may already know, I had to deal with an enormous obstacle during my second semester here at Howard Law. I had a recurrence of Hodgkin's Disease, and as a result I was forced to move out of my apartment here in D.C., back to my home in Pikesville, MD. In addition, I dropped all of my courses for the spring of 1997, with the exception of one class: Torts II. During the spring semester, I underwent chemotherapy in Baltimore, and I commuted between Baltimore County and D.C. every Monday and Friday, when possible, to attend Torts II. As I grappled with my illness, the fact that I could still partake in the law school environment, even in a small way, was very comforting to me. While I was going through my ordeal, Professor Martin was available to me anytime, for anything – not only school-related issues, but as a friend and inspirational support system as well. Professor Martin did anything within her power to

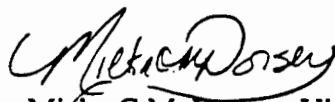
make me feel comfortable and to ensure that my life was as stress-free as possible. Even on days when I barely had enough strength to get out of bed, I pushed myself to get to class because Professor Martin made me want to be at school; she gave me something to look forward to at the beginning and end of the week.

You may think that any professor would have had the same effect on me, simply because I was going through such a difficult time, but this is not the case. Had Professor Martin not been the compassionate woman that she is, and had she not made me feel comfortable in class, even at the times when I felt that I was merely a shell of my normal self, I would not have been so inspired and determined to make the 60-mile drive from my home to Howard Law, twice per week.

Not only am I deeply concerned about Professor Martin because she is such an outstanding individual, but it is my understanding that the decision to terminate her employment has had a devastating effect on her family. I will not discuss at length the details of Professor Martin's personal life, but I feel that it is sufficient to say that her daughter Danielle has been extremely distressed about the situation, and it has affected Danielle physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Professor Martin is an asset to the Howard University School of Law. She is professional, knowledgeable, and pro-student, and her dismissal would definitely be a detriment to the Howard Law community as a whole. The petition circulated among students in support of Professor Martin has shown that I am not alone in these sentiments. I am asking you to please reconsider your decision, and continue Professor Martin's employment at Howard Law. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mieka C.M. Dorsey, Vice-President
Class of 1999
Howard University School of Law

Cc: Dawn V. Martin

Osa A. Benson
2251 Sherman Avenue, NW
Apartment 905 East
Washington, D.C. 20001

April 6, 1998

Dean Alice Grisham Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Dean Bullock:

I want to commend you on the excellent job you have done to hire professors who are competent and knowledgeable on various fields of the law. As a 3L student here at Howard University School of Law (HUSL), I have been fortunate to receive the best training and education any law school could offer. I believe that the type of education I received was due in part to the time and effort you put forth to make sure that HUSL had only the best legal educators and staff possible. However, I was appalled to hear that HUSL has decided to terminate the employment of one of its best professors, Professor Dawn V. Martin. As a student in Professor Martin's Equal Employment Class in the Spring Semester of 1997 and Professor Martin's research assistant, I am aware of Professor Martin's wonderful teaching skills, expertise in various fields of the law, and enthusiasm for teaching law at HUSL. I would like to detail my experiences with Professor Martin in hopes that HUSL will reconsider its decision to end her professorship here.

As a student in Professor Martin's Equal Employment Class, I found that Professor Martin's knowledge of Equal Employment law was impeccable. Moreover, her enthusiasm for teaching us the law was unlike any other professor's here at HUSL. She took delight in her work and encouraged our participation in class. I believe that when professors take pride in their field and interest in their students, the class as a whole excels to a higher level. This is exactly what happened to our class. By the end of the semester, we knew equal employment law like the back of our hand. I appreciated Professor Martin for making equal employment law exciting and fun to learn. My classroom experience with Professor Martin was one of the best in all of my years at HUSL.

I am also a research assistant for Professor Martin. In this capacity, I have had the chance to view Professor Martin more closely than other students in the classroom. I have learned that Professor Martin is a compassionate person and cares deeply for her students and HUSL. She is concerned for the well being of the law school and the improvement of the student's legal education. After researching a number of topics for Professor Martin, I know that she is equally dedicated to educating the community at large about civil rights issues, including employment discrimination. She has also been adamant about publishing her legal work and one law article has recently been accepted by a number of law schools.

I am concerned for the future of HUSL. As a graduating student, I want to know that those who follow in my footsteps will have the opportunity to receive the same great education that I received. I am confident that Professor Martin had a substantial part in making my educational experience great. I strongly encourage you and the HUSL faculty and staff to keep Professor Martin on the HUSL faculty.

Sincerely,


Osa A. Benson

9 February 1998

Dean Alice G. Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

I have recently heard from Professor Dawn Martin that her teaching contract with Howard University School of Law will terminate at the end of this term. As an L.L. M. student who has benefitted tremendously from Professor's Martin's approach to teaching, I wanted to write this letter to tell you how much she is respected and appreciated by her students. I hope she will be able to continue to teach at Howard.

As you know, the L.L. M. program consists largely of foreign born students, many of whom still struggle with English as a second language. It is consequently of tremendous importance to have a teacher who can not only teach the law, but relate to foreign students and their particular needs, particularly across linguistic and cultural barriers. Professor Martin is such a professor.

In the world of international business from which I come, people with the skills of Professor Martin are highly prized, especially her ability to communicate effectively with non-native born Americans. Part of that ability to communicate lies in her skill at approaching problems from many directions, her capacity to simplify and clarify issues, and her willingness expend extra time and energy to make sure each individual student gains the fullest possible understanding of the subject matter taught. In this regard, I have found her to be most outstanding.

Should the opportunity arise for Professor Martin to remain or return to Howard, please know that those who were her students while she was here found her teaching abilities to be of the highest order.

Sincerely,

Saadi Rockney

March 4, 1998

4545 Connecticut Avenue NW
Apartment 421
Washington, DC 20008

Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I am submitting this letter of recommendation in support of Professor Dawn V. Martin. I have had the opportunity to have been a student in her class every semester I have attended this law school, beginning in Fall 1996. As a second year student I am choosing to take her classes because I feel she is an excellent professor and a value to this legal institution.

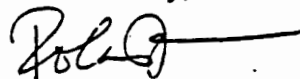
We were shocked and dismayed to learn about your committees decision. As students we immediately rallied together in support of Professor Martin through addressing our concerns to the Student Bar Association.

Professor Martin is a professional. She has a teaching style that is very interactive and participatory. If there is a concept you do not understand she will explain it to you giving examples that are clear and concise. From a student perspective, Professor Martin presents a comfortable learning environment free of intimidation. We are treated with respect and as colleagues.

Professor Martin is an approachable professor. She has an open door policy. She will make time to speak with you. Through her actions and dedication, it is easy to see that she takes her job to educate future lawyers seriously, and enjoys teaching. Professor Martin is also a recognized expert in Equal Employment Law.

I strongly urge you to reconsider your decisions and retain Professor Martin as a faculty member of Howard University School of Law.

Sincerely,



Rolanda Jefferson

April 7, 1998

Alice Gresham Bullock
Dean
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

Recently, I was aware that Prof. Dawn Martin's contract at our esteemed institution will not be renewed. I was both dismayed and disappointed upon hearing this unfortunate news.

Howard University School of Law (HUSL) has been moving in some very positive directions for which the present administration must be commended. While our institution has been under attack by some segments of the legal press, the administration and students have rallied, and have taken up the banner of the HUSL family.

Professor Dawn Martin has been essential in bridging the gap that often times exist between students and administration/faculty. Prof. Martin accomplishes her primary task of teaching in a concise, articulate, and intelligent manner, which is greatly appreciated by her students. After accomplishing her primary purpose for being brought to HUSL, she proceeds to make students feel as though they are part of a community. A community that cares about all of its members, from the matriarch-you, to the professors-Prof. Martin, to the students who may be at the bottom of the class-me. It would be a travesty to allow someone, such as Prof. Martin to be lost to our community. She has a desire to be here, she is dedicated and she cares. These traits are appreciated in you and hopefully, they are appreciated in our professors.

Professor Dawn Martin is an asset, one that Howard University School of Law should and hopefully will keep.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin L. Robinson III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Melvin L. Robinson, III,
A concerned member of the
HUSL family

cc: Prof. Dawn Martin

April 13, 1998

Dean Alice Grisham Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness St., N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

I was dismayed to learn that Professor Dawn Martin will not be returning next semester. I currently have Professor Martin for Equal Employment Opportunity Law, and was anticipating to have her next semester for Labour Law. As you are aware, that is her area of expertise. I previously also had Professor Martin for Torts in my first year (1996).

Professor Martin has demonstrated a keen interest in wanting students to learn and understand the law and its impact. She is very approachable and personable, and makes time to see students outside of her office hours. Professor Martin is student-friendly and shows an eagerness to get to know her students.

She is extremely knowledgeable about her subject matter and shares all facets of the law to present a complete and comprehensive understanding. Professor Martin is always well-prepared for class and her familiarity with the details of cases studied is impressive.

I hope you have, and will take into consideration, the views of students in assessing the soundness of your present decision.

Sincerely,



A.R. Marblestein
Second Year Student, HUSL

April 9, 1998

Dean Aalice Grisham Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

It has come to my attention that one of my professors, Ms. Dawn Martin, will not be returning the following year to teach and I wanted to express my deep concern that this is a poor decision on the part of the faculty administration. I currently have Professor Martin for my Equal Employment Opportunity Law class and have sat in on her Evidence classes in the fall and from these experiences I believe her to be an excellent teacher, particularly in my EEO class, a concerned professor who wants her students to not only learn the law and but to also understand how the law impacts society, and a highly approachable, student-friendly professor who is accessible for further discussion on a legal issue or help with classroom assignments outside of the classroom. These qualities are highly valued and very rarely found in many law professors.

The decision to not renew her contract is not in the best interest of the law students here at Howard University School of Law and I am not sure why the decision was made or what that criteria was which was used to come to this conclusion. I do not think that the decision-makers asked for any input from her students because I certainly have not heard of any nor have any of the students I have spoken to about this issue. I do know that a petition was circulated that expressed the students' dissent with the decision and my signature was on this petition, however, I believe the petition was to no avail.

Again, I strongly disagree with the decision to not renew Professor Dawn Martin's contract to teach at Howard University School of Law and I encourage the faculty administration to reconsider their decision. Professor Martin is very knowledgeable on Equal Employment Law and has provided much insight and further food for thought in this legal area in which I hope to practice in the future. She has been very approachable for outside comments and further discussion. She also has shown a sincere concern that her students learn the law and that they understand the implications of legal decisions on the everyday lives of people of this country. I could not ask for more in a law professor and only could wish that other law professors show this same concern. I do hope that the faculty re-examine their reasons behind their decision and come up this time with the decision to renew Professor Martin's contract.

Sincerely,



Minh Pham

Second Year Student, HUSL

April 19, 1998

Dean Alice Gresham Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock,

I along with many others find it very disturbing that Professor Martin has not been asked to come back next Fall. I have had three classes with Professor Martin. These were Torts I, Torts II, and Evidence. My impression of Professor Martin from these classes is that she is a very fair, empathetic, and concerned teacher who is very dedicated to educating her students not just academically but also practically. She has always been very accessible outside of the classroom and has made a point of letting us know that her door is always open for those who need help with their academics. While I did not receive stellar grades in all of her classes, I believed that the grades that I did receive were fair reflections of my performances and efforts. She has also been very willing to counsel students who are having trouble with law school in general. I have had the pleasure of learning from very few other teachers at Howard Law who have demonstrated the same level of commitment to the student body as Professor Martin.

I believe that Howard Law owes the same level of dedication and commitment to Professor Martin as she has demonstrated towards her students. The decision not to renew her contract is not in the best interest of the students at Howard Law. This is part of a general concern on the part of the student body that the Faculty routinely makes decisions with absolutely no deference to the opinions of the students. I know of at least one petition that was circulated on behalf of Professor Martin, without her knowledge, in which students expressed their support for her continued employment. I know that a large number of students signed this petition. This however had no effect on the Faculty's decision on Professor Martin. I know of no occasion upon which any of the students were, by the Faculty's initiative, consulted as to Professor Martin's continued employment. On the other hand, it was only with great persistence and difficulty that the Faculty finally listened to our grave concerns over another teacher. This clear tendency of the Faculty to ignore student concerns is very disheartening.

I strongly encourage the Howard Law Faculty to begin listening to the input of the students. The renewing of Professor Martin's contract would be an excellent start. As opposed to what was asserted in the town meeting - that many of the student demands could not be immediately brought to fruition, this is one demand that the Faculty can instantly address. I certainly hope that the Faculty takes advantage of this opportunity to turn over a new leaf.

Sincerely,

Adam E. Howard
2L, HUSL

Sangita Shah
6924 N. Fairfax Drive, #414
Arlington, VA 22213

April 22, 1998

Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my concern about the continued employment of Professor Dawn Martin at Howard University School of Law.

Professor Martin has been my Torts professor for the past school year. During this time, I have garnished a deep respect for her as a teacher, mentor and friend. Professor Martin is an organized professor who is knowledgeable in her field. She has always been well-prepared for class and throughout the year she has stimulated class participation to enhance our learning. She listens carefully to our comments and questions, sometimes continuing conversations with students while walking to her office.

Professor Martin has always maintained an "open-door" policy with her students. I specifically recall a time when I visited her in her office. Although it was not during her office hours and she was very busy, she welcomed me into her office to speak with her about my exam anxiety. She is one of the few professors who gave us sample exams, answers and a review session in order to ease our anxiety and allow us to focus on the material, as opposed to the stress of taking first-year exams.

Professor Martin began the first day of class by giving us information on how to outline for law school classes and how to study for exams. This information was not only useful for Torts class but for my other classes as well. In addition, she distributed copies of her resumé so that if we had an interest in an area in which she had a professional background, that we could meet with her to discuss these interests. It is obvious that Professor Martin cares about her students and their success in law school as well as in life.

Therefore, I sincerely hope that Howard University School of Law will invite Professor Martin to continue teaching at the law school.

Sincerely,

Sangita A. Shah

Sangita A. Shah
First-Year Student, HUSL

cc: Professor Dawn Martin

Stacey Lynne Jones
6653 Hillandale Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

April 20, 1998

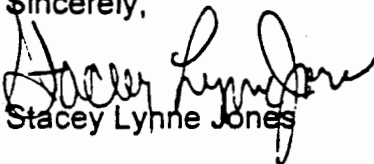
Dean Alice Gresham Bullock
Howard University School of Law
2900 Van Ness Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Dean Bullock:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Professor Dawn Martin who taught my Torts I and II class. If you are looking for a professor who genuinely cares about her students you need look no further. Professor Martin carefully listens to each students' question and does not proceed to a new topic until everyone understands the previous concept. Professor Martin has a great deal of practical experience in the "real world" and informs the students what is appropriate to say in a court of law and what type of claims would probably succeed under certain theories. Professor Martin provided the class with a guest lecturer from JAG who further illustrated real life immunities. Professor Martin provides ample practice exams along with model answers to allow her students to be thoroughly prepared for exams. Professor Martin continually puts forth more effort than is necessary to ensure that each of her students receive both a practical and theoretical based torts education.

Unfortunately, I cannot say the previous positive things about all of my professors at Howard Law School. It would be a tragedy not to allow Professor Martin to continue teaching at Howard. Please reconsider your decision for the sake of the students.

Sincerely,


Stacey Lynne Jones

cc: Professor Dawn Martin

Mesrop Khoudagoulian
4831 36th Street NW #203
Washington, D.C. 20008

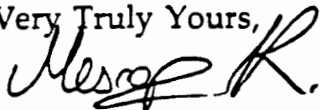
Dean Alice Gresham Bullock
2900 Van Ness Street NW
Office of The Dean

CC: Prof. Dawn Martin

Dear Dean Bullock,

It has come to my attention that Professor Dawn Martin is not going to be with us next semester. I was very sad upon hearing this news. Professor Martin is one of my favorite professors on this campus. In fact her teaching style and knowledge of the law have helped me advance my understanding of tort law far beyond what I have expected to learn. Professor Martin goes far above and beyond her call of duty to make sure that all of my questions are answered. I wish that whomever has made the decision not to hire Professor Martin should reconsider this decision, and reinstate her as a Howard University Faculty member.

Very Truly Yours,



Mesrop G. Khoudagoulian

MEMORANDUM

To: Alice Bullock, Dean
From: Cassandra Robinson
Re: Letter in Support of Professor Dawn Martin
Date: April 17, 1998

This letter is written in support of Dawn Martin and her position as a Professor at Howard University School of Law.

Professor Martin should be allowed to remain at Howard Law as a permanent member of the teaching faculty. As a second year student at Howard Law, I realize the importance of having a competent and fair instructor in the classroom. The study of law is extremely difficult under any circumstances. However, if students have a professor that is knowledgeable in her subject area and can convey that information clearly, the difficulty is minimized. I believe that Professor Dawn Martin is this type of instructor.

Professor Martin is one of the few Professors in the law school that actually cares about the students and their ability to learn new information. She is consistently available during her office hours and she makes herself available for those who cannot see her during those hours. In terms of academic policies, Professor Martin goes to great lengths to provide practice exams and model answers for students in all of her classes. This is a practice that she has instituted and maintained since her arrival at Howard Law, which is the same practice that some of the permanent faculty members have just begun to implement due to student complaints.

Professor Martin brings to the student body, a combination of teaching experience and recent work experience in the legal field that is invaluable to her classes. Her prior teaching history allows her insight in understanding what students need to succeed in law school and on the bar exam. Professor Martin's work history in the legal field is important because she gives students a fresh and contemporary view of how academic methodology is applied in the real world. This is extremely important to students who want to obtain hands-on experience in the job market.

I believe that Professor Martin is an asset to Howard Law School and should be offered a permanent position, based on her experience, educational background and her overall interest in students and their concerns.

Sincerely,



Cassandra Robinson

Cc: Dawn Martin

Memo

To: Dean Bullock

From: P. Winston Gardner II

Re: Commitment To Bar Passage Rate

CC: Prof. Dawn Martin

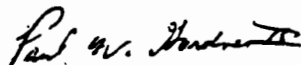
Dear Dean Bullock:

A great number of students, past and current, are concerned with the bar passage rate of Howard University School of Law. Embodied within this general concern, is the ancillary consternation that some professors fail to exhibit the teaching skills which would lead to a higher passage rate. Granted, students must be willing to study and shepardize the material on their own without the complacency of a "spoon feed me" mentality, but excellent instruction does play a crucial role in success.

I have learned that a professor crucial to the law school's bar passage success has not been invited to join us in the coming years. Not only is this news saddening but it is extremely disheartening to have to express well-wishes to a wonderful professor one has just met. Not bringing Professor Martin back constitutes a mistake. She teaches the law in a more than adequate manner which is actually fun. She also is constantly available for student questions. But not only that, Professor Martin also lends her personal support to students in need and in the sense of the word, is an advisor to all.

Therefore, it seems to convey to me, a lack of real concern for the welfare of Howard Law students, if Professor Martin is not extended a position on the Howard University School of Law faculty.

Your's In the Continued Uplift of Howard Law,



P. Winston Gardner II

April 13, 1998

Dear Professor Martin,

I would like to take a moment to thank you for making such a positive impression on me in my first year of law school. I really enjoyed your interactive form of teaching. It seemed like a far cry from the traditional Socratic method that we have to be burdened with on a daily basis. I really appreciate how you gave Torts relevance to our everyday life. You displayed a human side to Torts, and more importantly to law school, which I think really helped in the learning process of the subject. Even though I was not one of the most vocal students in the class I still gained a vast amount of knowledge from the way the class discussion was conducted.

While your attributes to this class and to this law school may have gone unappreciated by many, you can rest assure that there are many of us who greatly appreciate you. You showed that law professors could actually care about the students and whether we learned or not. Rather than most professors, who seemed to only care about stroking their own egos or adhering to some "curve." I cannot say enough about how much I appreciate your class and your teaching method. And I believe the fact that you will not be here next year is a big loss to us, the students.

Again, thank you for all you have done for me through your teachings. And good luck to you and your daughter in all of your future endeavors.

Your Grateful Student,

Aaron N. Taylor

April 23, 1998

H. Patrick Swygert, President
2400 Sixth Street, N.W.
Fourth Floor
Howard University
Washington, D.C. 20059

President Swygert:

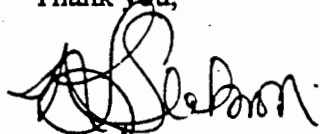
I am writing this correspondence to express my disappointment in your decision to dismiss Professor Martin. Indeed, I believe the students of Howard University School of Law deserve some explanation in justification for your decision.

Professor Martin has given us ample knowledge in her discipline and she strives to impart this knowledge to her students. She is one of the **few** professors who cares about her students. She is one of the **few** professors who has given us the **Black Letter Law** needed to exceed on the bar exam. Unfortunately, too many of our professors are preoccupied with achieving tenure or building a reputation in some other discipline, than what they are paid to do: **teach students the law.**

Most distressing is the knowledge that there are several other professors that deserve to lose their "esteemed" position in our faculty because they fall short of her example. We, as students, are tired of having to chose "the lesser of two evils". Students should be able to chose a **competant instructor who is knowledgeable in the field that he/she is teaching, not just someone chosen to fill the space.**

I am quite sure that this letter will be tossed aside. I am aware of numerous students who have fought to keep Professor Martin here and their questions have gone unanswered. However, what you must keep in mind is that without students, Howard would be nothing. Minority students come to this institution for support and nuturing. We do not expect a cake walk and we do not expect special treatment. We have all sacrificed to come to this institution. **However, we do expect a more positive response from Howard University. The degree of respect or lack thereof we are currently receiving, we could have gotten from a majority institution.**

Thank you,



N. Seabron