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May 28, 2021

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

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Chair, Board of Trustees
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Dear President Frenk, Provost Duerk, and Ms. Bass:

We are proud of Miami Law and of the work of Dean Anthony Varona.

As alumni leaders and supporters of the University of Miami and our School of Law, we are surprised and saddened over the termination of Dean Varona. We are particularly concerned by the lack of process and the failure to consult with important stakeholders, including the faculty and alumni leaders.

Having worked closely with Dean Varona, we are impressed with his passion, enthusiasm, and ability to connect with and advocate on behalf of the Law School, its students, and its alumni. His many successes as Dean should not go unacknowledged. Seven months into his tenure and faced with the onslaught of COVID-19, the Law School not only adjusted but thrived under his leadership as it tackled new pandemic challenges and the transition to online learning. In addition to his extraordinary work supporting student summer placement efforts, Dean Varona established a Student Emergency Fund to assist our students facing financial hardships during the pandemic. In total the Law School has raised over \$8 million under Dean Varona's leadership during the last 22 months. This figure is impressive for the Law School, especially so during these times.

Dr. Julio Frenk
Jeffrey L. Duerk
Hilarie Bass
May 28, 2021
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We are convinced that the future of Miami Law is bright. The entering 1L class in the fall of 2020 – Dean Varona’s first class of incoming Miami Law students – had the most competitive credentials of any entering Miami Law class during the past 30 years. Additionally, Miami Law has emerged as a center for thought leadership, attracting prominent speakers, faculty, symposia, and conferences. These successes have improved Miami Law’s reputation across the academic and legal landscape in South Florida, as well as nationally.

The greater Miami Law alumni community rises and falls with the successes of our beloved Law School. On behalf of our alumni – *your* alumni – we ask to meet with you in the coming days to express our concerns and to address how this decision will impact our students and alumni moving forward. We will make ourselves available at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Kolaya, BS ‘00, JD ‘08
President, University of Miami Law Alumni Association



Julie Braman Kane, BS ‘90, JD ‘93
President-Elect, University of Miami Law Alumni Association



Daniel Newman, JD ‘91
Vice President, University of Miami Law Alumni Association;
Chair, Dean’s Circle

In unity with our leadership:

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Erika Pagano, JD '13, University of Miami Law Alumni Association, National Alumni Advisory Council

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Katie S. Phang, JD '00, Director, University of Miami Law Alumni Association

Michelle Ramirez-Patricios, BA '91, JD '95, Iron Arrow Honor Society; Dean's Circle

Miriam Soler Ramos, BS '99, JD '02, Director, University of Miami Law Alumni Association.

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