

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS
UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA

WILLIAM F. ADAMS
DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

February 4, 1949

Mr. Paul R. Jones
724 Fairmont Street, N. W.
Washington 1, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of transcripts from The Alabama State Teachers College for you and also receipt of applications from you.

I am venturing to write you a friendly letter to tell you frankly that the problem posed by your application is one of which we have long been conscious and which we have from time to time been called upon in the past to meet. We recognize that it is entirely conceivable that the Supreme Court of the United States can say to the State of Alabama that it must either provide in a separate institution for colored people opportunities for the study of law equal to those being provided for white people or, as an alternative, admit colored people to the institution maintained by the State for white people, assuming that the applicant can in every case meet the entrance requirements in force at the institutions maintained by the State for whites. In the case of students applying for admission to the School of Law there are, in addition to the scholastic entrance requirements of the institution, certain requirements to be met which have been set up and announced by the University of Alabama. These requirements are carried in our Law School Bulletin.

As you may know, machinery is provided in this state through Mr. E. G. McGehee, of the State Department of Education, to assist colored students who desire to engage in the study of law to obtain opportunities for entering high class institutions located elsewhere which accept colored students. It is hoped that you will see your way clear to avail yourself of the opportunities thus afforded which will enable you to obtain a law degree in a high class graduate institution comparable to the Law School of Alabama.

While this may be gratuitous, I am adding that we at the University of Alabama are convinced that relationships between the races, in this section of the country at least, are not likely to be improved by pressure on behalf of members of the colored race in an effort to gain admission to institutions maintained by the State for members of the white race. On the contrary, we feel that inter-racial relationships would suffer if there is insistence that the issue be joined at this time. The better elements of both races deplore anything that tends to retard or jeopardize the development of better relationships between the races. For these reasons, therefore, we hope that you can persuade yourself not to press further your application for admission here.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Adams
Dean of Admissions

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