University of Minnesota Law School
Policy on Student Complaints About Compliance with ABA Standards

1. Pursuant to ABA Standard 510, any student may file a complaint alleging a problem that directly implicates the Law School’s compliance with the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools.

2. Complaints must be in writing and include detail regarding the behavior, program, or process that is the subject of the complaint, citations to relevant ABA Standards, explanation of why the Law School may not be in compliance with the cited Standards, and the name and contact information (including UMN email address) of the complainant. The Complaint must be clearly labeled as arising under “ABA Standard 510.”

3. Complaints must be emailed to law-ad@umn.edu from the student’s UMN email address. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and/or his or her designee will acknowledge receipt of the Complaint within seven days and investigate the complaint (including, if necessary, contacting the complainant to request additional information) and respond to the complainant in writing as soon as possible, generally within thirty days after receipt of the Complaint. If more than 30 days are necessary, the Associate Dean will notify the complainant of the reason for taking additional time.

4. If the complainant is not satisfied with the response, he or she may appeal to the Dean within fourteen days of receiving the response by sending the Dean via email a detailed written explanation of their disagreement with the response. The explanation should be clearly labeled as an “ABA Standard 510 Appeal.” The Dean will respond to the complainant in writing as soon as possible, generally within thirty days after receipt of the Complaint. If more than 30 days are necessary, the Dean will notify the complainant of the reason for taking additional time. Any decision made on appeal by the Dean shall be final.

5. The Law School shall maintain in the Dean’s Office a confidential record of student complaints submitted during the most recent accreditation period. The record shall include the resolution of the complaints.