

LAW SCHOOL GRAD APPEALS BAR BAN FOR RACIAL VIEWS

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A court-appointed committee on Saturday heard the legal appeal of a 27-year-old Southern Illinois University law school graduate who was deemed unfit to be admitted to the state bar because of racist and separatist beliefs.

Matthew Hale of Peoria appeared in Joliet before lawyers appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court.

The character-and-fitness-review committee could choose to override the 2-1 decision of an inquiry panel and allow his admission, or could again deny him entry, said James Grogan, chief counsel of the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.

The panel could take several weeks to reach a decision.

Should Hale be denied entry again, he can ask the state Supreme Court to bypass that ruling and admit him.

Hale, who passed the bar exam last summer, belongs to a member of a group that says racial problems would be solved by the deportation of non-whites.

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Page: 7

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