

November 9, 2004

VIA EDGAR

Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549

Re: BankFinancial Corporation
Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Number 333-119217)
Request for Acceleration of Effectiveness

Ladies and Gentlemen:

BankFinancial Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), hereby requests that the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 be declared effective on November 12, 2004 at 12:00 Noon, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

The Company hereby acknowledges that:

- o should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- o the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the Company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- o the Company may not assert this action as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. Morgan Gasior

F. Morgan Gasior
Chairman of the Board,
Chief Executive Officer and President