

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals, continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on April 11, 2019, the following order was made and entered:

Lawyer Disciplinary Board,  
Petitioner

vs.) No. 17-0869

Alison R. Gerlach, a member of  
The West Virginia State Bar,  
Respondent

APR 11 2019  
APR 7 2019  
COURT OF APPEALS  
WEST VIRGINIA

**ORDER**

On February 4, 2019, the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, by Steven K. Nord, its chairperson, pursuant to Rule 3.10 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, presented to the Court its written recommended disposition in this matter, recommending the following sanctions:

- (1) The Respondent's law license be suspended for a period of ninety days;
- (2) Upon automatic reinstatement pursuant to Rule 3.31 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, respondent's practice be supervised for a period of two years by an attorney agreed upon by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and respondent, that respondent meet with her supervising attorney every two weeks with the goal of the supervised practice being to improve the quality and effectiveness of her law practice to the extent that her sanctioned behavior is not likely to recur.
- (3) That respondent complete an additional six hours of continuing legal education in the area of ethics and law office management within twelve months from the date of the Court's order; and
- (4) Respondent shall pay the costs of this disciplinary proceeding pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Thereafter, on February 14, 2019, the Office of Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel, by Renée N. Frymyer, Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel, filed its consent to the recommendation. The respondent has not filed a consent or an objection to the recommendation.

Upon consideration, the Court is of the opinion to and does hereby concur with and does hereby approve the recommended disposition of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board. It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

- (1) The license to practice law in the State of West Virginia of the respondent, Alison R. Gerlach, shall be, and it hereby is, suspended for a period of ninety days;
- (2) Upon automatic reinstatement of the respondent's license to practice law pursuant to Rule 3.31 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, the respondent's practice of law shall be supervised for a period of two years by an attorney agreed upon by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and respondent, and respondent shall meet with her supervising attorney once every two weeks with the goal of the supervised practice being to improve the quality and effectiveness of her law practice to the extent that her sanctioned behavior is not likely to reoccur.
- (3) The respondent shall complete an additional six hours of continuing legal education in the area of ethics and law office management, over and above the hours for ethics and law office management required during the current reporting period, within twelve months from the date of this order; and
- (4) The respondent shall pay the costs of this disciplinary proceeding pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Service of a copy of this order upon the respondent, Alison R. Gerlach, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and the West Virginia State Bar shall constitute sufficient notice of the contents herein.

A True Copy

Attest: /s/ Edythe Nash Gaiser  
Clerk of Court

