



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At the Supreme Court of Appeals continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on the 30th day of August, 2016, the following order was made and entered in vacation:

Lawyer Disciplinary Board,
Petitioner

vs.) No. 16-0178

Amber L. Hanna, a suspended member of
The West Virginia State Bar,
Respondent

ORDER

On June 21, 2016, the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, by Timothy E. Haught, 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 that respondent be:

- (1) Suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year, effective on January 20, 2016;
- (2) Subject to two years of supervised practice after the suspension by a responsible, local attorney approved by the Office of Disciplinary Counsel ("ODC");
- (3) Required to meet with the responsible local attorney on a monthly basis with quarterly reports to the ODC regarding supervised practice;
- (4) At her own expense, subject to random drug screens upon a one-hour notice by the ODC during the period of suspension and supervised practice, with reports of the result of any drug screen to be provided to her supervising attorney;
- (5) Required to attend five days each week of twelve-step program meetings with proof in writing during her suspension and supervised practice to be provided to her supervising attorney;

(6) Required to attend regular counseling sessions pursuant to a treatment plan approved by the ODC during her suspension and supervised practice with reports made to the ODC on a quarterly basis;

(7) Required to render service to the Lawyers Assistance Committee for sixty hours of service during the next two years; and

(8) Respondent be required, within 90 days of entry of an order as to the amount, to reimburse to the ODC its costs.

On June 29, 2016, the respondent, by counsel, Ancil G. Ramey, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, filed her consent to the recommendation. On June 30, 2016, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Rachael L. Fletcher Cipoletti, filed its consent to the recommendation.

Upon consideration, the Court is of the opinion to and does hereby concur in part with the recommendations of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee, as follows. It is

ORDERED that:

(1) Respondent's license to practice law in the State of West Virginia shall be, and it hereby is, suspended for one year beginning on January 20, 2016;

(2) Respondent shall be subject to, upon one-hour notice, random drug screens as scheduled by the ODC during the period of suspension, at her expense, with reports of the results to be provided to the ODC and the respondent;

(3) Respondent shall attend five twelve-step program meetings each week during the period of suspension with written proof of attendance provided to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel;

(4) Respondent shall attend regular counseling sessions with her substance abuse counselor pursuant to a treatment plan approved by the ODC during the period of suspension, with treatment reports provided to the ODC on a quarterly basis;

(5) Respondent shall render thirty hours of service to the Lawyers Assistance Program of The West Virginia State Bar during the period of suspension; and

(6) Respondent shall pay the costs of these proceedings pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, within ninety days of entry of this order.

Respondent's reinstatement to the practice of law will not be automatic. Pursuant to Rule 3.32 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, she must petition for reinstatement. Therefore, the remainder of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee's recommendations are premature at this time.

Service of a copy of this order upon all parties herein shall constitute sufficient notice of the contents herein.

A True Copy

Attest: //s// Rory L. Perry II
Clerk of Court

