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SECTION OF
PROFESSIONAL EXAMINERS

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on the 25th of September, 2008, the following order was made and entered:

Lawyer Disciplinary Board, Petitioner

vs.) No. 33519

Donald P. Cookman, a member of The West Virginia State Bar, Respondent

On a former day, to-wit, July 15, 2008, came the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, by David A. Jividen, its chairperson, pursuant to Rule 3.10 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, and presented to the Court its written recommended disposition in this matter, recommending that: (1) the respondent's law license be suspended for a period of three years; (2) prior to being permitted to petition for reinstatement of his license to practice law, the respondent shall reimburse Mr. McDonald in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Mr. Cowgill in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred; (3) the respondent continue in treatment as recommended by his treating physicians, psychologists and/or counselors; (4) the respondent submit a current written report with any petition for reinstatement from his treating psychiatrist/psychologist advising that his alcoholism and/or other psychological issues are under control to the point where, in the opinion of the professional, he could practice law without being a danger to the public, legal profession, or himself; (5) that upon reinstatement, respondent's practice of law be supervised for a period of two years;

and (6) the respondent pay the costs of these proceedings pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure.

Thereafter, on August 15, 2008, came the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Andrea J. Hinerman, its attorney, and presented its written statement to the Court that it has no objects to the recommendations.

Upon consideration whereof, the Court is of opinion to doth hereby deny said recommendation in part.


It is therefore ordered that: (1) the law license of Donald P. Cookman, be, and it hereby is, **suspended for one year**; (2) the respondent is ordered to reimburse Mr. McDonald in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Mr. Cowgill in the amount of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars **within sixty days** of the date of this order; (3) the respondent continue in treatment as recommended by his treating physicians, psychologists and/or counselors; (4) the respondent submit a current written report with any petition for reinstatement from his treating psychiatrist/psychologist advising that his alcoholism and/or other psychological issues are under control to the point where, in the opinion of the professional, he could practice law without being a danger to the public, legal profession, or himself; (5) that upon reinstatement, respondent's practice of law be supervised for a period of two years; and (6) the respondent pay the costs of these proceedings pursuant to Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure. Justice Albright did not participate in the consideration or decision of this matter. Senior Status Justice McHugh sitting by temporary

assignment. Justices David and Benjamin concur with and would accept the recommendation of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee.

Service of an attested copy of this order shall constitute sufficient notice of its contents.

A True Copy

Attest:


Clerk, Supreme Court of Appeals