STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS

## IN VACATION

Lawyer Disciplinary Board, Complainant

vs.) No. 30559

L. Thomas Lakin, not licensed with the The West Virginia State Bar, Respondent

The Court, having maturely considered the record, the written recommended disposition filed by the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, and the oral argument and briefs of counsel thereon, doth hereby adopt the sanctions against the respondent, L. Thomas Lakin, as recommended by the Hearing Panel Subcommittee, for violating Rules 7.1, 7.2(c), 7.3(a), 7.3(b), 7.3(c), 8.4(a) and 8.4(c). It is hereby ordered that the respondent shall not practice before the bar of any court in the State of West Virginia, on a pro hac vice basis or otherwise, for a period of twelve months from the date of this order, excluding therefrom only those cases in which he has already been admitted pro hac vice and is actively representing the interests of a party to such case. It is further ordered that the respondent shall not, in any way, whether on an advisory basis or otherwise, involve himself with or in any case now pending or which may hereafter be brought before any court of the State of West Virginia for a period of twelve months from the date of the adoption of these recommendations by the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, excluding therefrom only those cases which he has already been admitted pro hac vice and is actively representing the interest of a party to such case. It is further ordered that the respondent and his law firm shall not, either directly or through the services of third parties, engage in or permit his employees or agents to engage

in the following conduct within the State of West Virginia: (1) make false or misleading communications about a lawyer or his services; (2) provide anything of value to a person for recommending respondent's services; (3) solicit for pecuniary gain, either in-person or by telephone, professional employment from a prospective client with whom the respondent has no family or prior professional relationship; (4) solicit professional employment for or on behalf of the respondent when the prospective client has made known to the respondent or his employees or agents a desire to not be solicited, or the solicitation involves coercion, duress or harassment; and (5) otherwise violate the West Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct; all of which is ordered to be certified to the parties herein.

The syllabus of points adjudicated, prefixed to the written opinion prepared Per Curiam, was concurred in by Chief Justice Albright and Justices Davis, Maynard and Benjamin. Justice Starcher concurs in part and dissents in part and reserves the right to file a separate opinion.

DONE IN VACATION of the Supreme Court of Appeals, this 25th day of July 2005.

Honorable Joseph P. Albright, Chief Justice

Honorable Robin Jean Davis

Honorable Larry V. Starcher

Honorable Elliott E. Maynard

Honorable Brent D. Benjamin	

Received the foregoing order this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2005, and entered the same in Order Book No. 154.

A True Copy

Attest:

Clerk, Supreme Court of Appeals