

JUL - 3 2012

OFFICE OF
DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At the Supreme Court of Appeals continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on June 29, 2012, the following order was made and entered **in vacation**:

Office of Disciplinary Counsel,
Petitioner

vs.) No. 12-0469

Belinda S. Morton, a member of
The West Virginia State Bar,
Respondent

On a former day, to-wit, April 13, 2012, came the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Andrea J. Hinerman, Senior Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel, pursuant to Rule 3.23(a) and (b) of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, seeking the immediate administrative suspension of the license to practice law in the State of West Virginia of the respondent, and pursuant to Rule 3.29, Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, requesting that this Court authorize the chief judge of the Circuit Court of Fayette County to appoint an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of West Virginia to inventory respondent's files and to take such action as seems indicated to protect the interest of the respondent and her clients for the reasons stated therein.

Thereafter, on April 20, 2012, came the respondent, Belinda S. Morton, *pro se*, and presented to the Court her written response thereto.

On April 25, 2012, the Court ordered that respondent be examined by qualified medical and/or psychiatric experts to determine whether she is disabled from continuing to practice law.

On June 28, 2012, came the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Andrea J. Hinerman, Senior Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel, and presented to the Court its motion to reconsider petition seeking administrative suspension in light of compliance with the Court's April 25, 2012 order.

Upon consideration whereof, the Court is of opinion to and doth hereby grant said petition. It is therefore ordered that the license to practice law in the State of West Virginia of Belinda S. Morton, be, and it hereby is, administratively suspended. It is ordered that the Honorable Paul M. Blake, Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Fayette County; and the Honorable John A. Hutchison, Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Raleigh County, be, and they hereby are, authorized to appoint an attorney(s) to inventory the respondent's files and to take such action as seems indicated to protect the interests of the respondent and her clients.

It is further ordered that C. Jane Moran, Esq., WV Bar ID No. 2615, P.O. Drawer 221, Williamson, WV 25661, be, and she is hereby is, appointed to serve as counsel for the respondent, Belinda S. Morton in this action.

It is finally ordered that any pending disciplinary matters before this Court, or before the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, be, and they hereby are, held in abeyance until further order of the Court.

Service of a copy of this order upon the respondent, the Honorable Paul M. Blake, Chief Judge, the Honorable John A. Hutchison, Chief Judge, and C. Jane Moran, Esq., shall constitute sufficient notice of the contents herein.

A True Copy

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

