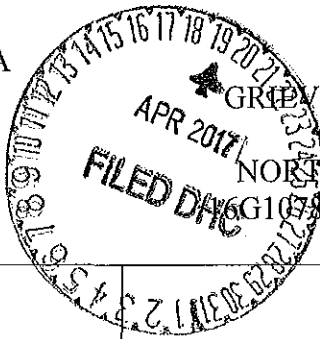


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY



BEFORE THE
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
16G1078, 16G1215, 16G1354, 16G1355

IN RE:

JOHN M. RICH, ATTORNEY

CONSENT ORDER
TRANSFERRING MEMBER TO
DISABILITY INACTIVE STATUS

This matter is before the undersigned Chair of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0118(b). Brian P.D. Oten represented the North Carolina State Bar ("State Bar"). John M. Rich represented himself. Based upon the information presented and with the consent of the member and of the Office of Counsel, the undersigned makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The North Carolina State Bar ("State Bar") is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 84 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and the rules and regulations of the North Carolina State Bar promulgated thereunder.

2. John M. Rich ("Rich"), was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar on 14 August 1970 and is, and was at all times referred to herein, an attorney at law licensed to practice in North Carolina, subject to the rules, regulations and Rules of Professional Conduct of the North Carolina State Bar and the laws of the State of North Carolina.

3. During the times relevant herein, Rich was engaged in the practice of law in the State of North Carolina and maintained a law office in Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina.

4. Rich currently suffers from physical and mental health conditions which significantly impair his professional performance as an attorney.

5. Rich voluntarily consents to being transferred to disability inactive status.

6. The State Bar consents to Rich's transfer to disability inactive status.

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the undersigned makes the following

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

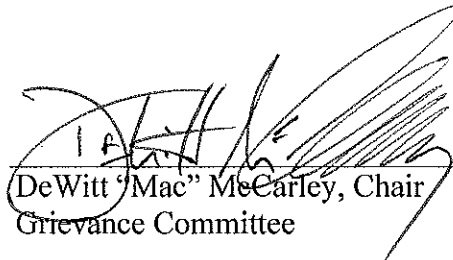
1. There is clear, cogent and convincing evidence that Rich is disabled within the meaning of 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0103(19).

2. Rich should be transferred to disability inactive status with the State Bar.
3. Rich and the State Bar voluntarily consent to Rich's transfer to disability inactive status pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0118(b).
4. Any pending or future grievances against Rich should be stayed during the period of disability.

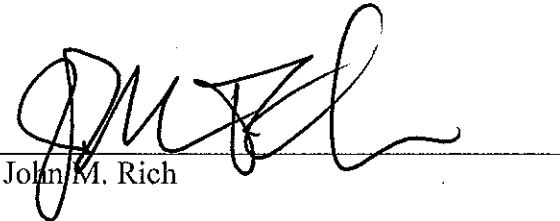
THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED:

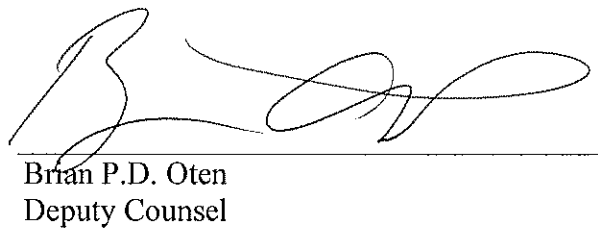
1. John M. Rich is transferred to disability inactive status. This order is effective upon filing.
2. Rich shall not practice law in North Carolina until he is no longer disabled and has been returned to active status as a member of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to the procedures set out in 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0125(c).
3. Any pending or future grievances against Rich are hereby stayed during the period of disability until such time as Rich returns to active status. The State Bar may continue to investigate allegations of misconduct and preserve evidence as necessary pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0118(e).

This, the 19th day of April, 2017.


DeWitt "Mac" McCarley, Chair
Grievance Committee

CONSENTED TO:


John M. Rich


Brian P.D. Oten
Deputy Counsel