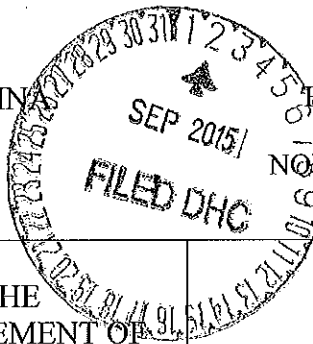


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE  
PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT OF

PAUL L. WHITFIELD



BEFORE THE SECRETARY  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
14 DHC 24, 15 BSR 11

ORDER STAYING SUSPENSION

THIS MATTER is before the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to a Petition for an Order Staying Suspension filed by Paul L. Whitfield ("Whitfield") on 31 August 2015.

Based upon the petition and its attachments and upon a review of the records of the North Carolina State Bar, the Secretary makes the following

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On 13 November 2014, a hearing panel of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission (hereinafter, "DHC") entered a Consent Order of Discipline in file number 14 DHC 24 (hereinafter "the Order of Discipline"). Whitfield was served with the Order of Discipline on 1 December 2014.

2. The Order of Discipline suspended Whitfield's license to practice law in North Carolina for a period of two years, effective 31 December 2014. The Order of Discipline provided that, after serving six months of the active suspension of his license, Whitfield could file a petition seeking a stay of the remaining portion of his suspension upon compliance with the conditions stated in the Order of Discipline.

3. On 31 August 2015, Whitfield filed a verified petition requesting a stay of the remaining portion of his active suspension and seeking reinstatement to active status with the North Carolina State Bar subject to the continuing conditions and requirements set forth in the Order of Discipline.

4. The Order of Discipline requires that Whitfield be in compliance with a number of conditions to qualify for a stay of the remaining portion of his suspension.

5. In his petition, Whitfield certified that he has satisfied all of the conditions in the Order of Discipline to qualify for a stay of the remaining portion of his suspension.

6. Counsel for the North Carolina State Bar did not file an objection to Whitfield's petition.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Secretary makes the following

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The petitioner, Paul L. Whitfield, has satisfied the conditions established in the Order of Discipline for a stay of his suspension and reinstatement to active status, subject to the continuing conditions set forth in the Order of Discipline.

2. Whitfield's reinstatement to active status should be conditioned upon compliance with the conditions and requirements in the Order of Discipline.

THEREFORE, based upon the findings and conclusions stated herein, the Secretary hereby enters the following

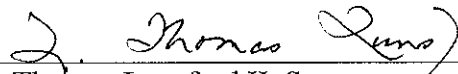
#### ORDER

1. The remaining active suspension of Paul L. Whitfield's license imposed by the Order of Discipline in 14 DHC 24 is hereby stayed and Whitfield is reinstated to the active practice of law in North Carolina as of the date of this order.

2. The stay of the remaining suspension is subject to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the Order of Discipline.

3. Whitfield's status as an active member of the North Carolina State Bar is contingent upon his compliance with all of the remaining conditions set forth in the Order of Discipline.

This the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2015.

  
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L. Thomas Lunsford II, Secretary  
North Carolina State Bar