16.00

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF WAKE IN THE WENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN RE:

IHUOMA IGBOANUGO

CONSENT ORDER OF REPRIMAND

The Court, having conducted an inquiry into the alleged removal of a filed document from the files of the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court by Attorney Ibuoma Igboanugo, North Carolina State Bar #46618, and having reviewed the court file and having obtained statements from the Assistant Clerk of Court for Wake County and from Ibuoma Igboanugo, and having advised Ibuoma Igboanugo of her due process rights to notice and a hearing and Ibuoma Igboanugo having knowingly and voluntarily waived her rights to notice and a hearing, and having consented to the entry of this Order of Discipline, the undersigned Resident Superior Court Judge for the County of Wake does hereby make the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On February 26, 2016, Ihuoma Igboanugo checked out file number 15-CVS-14953,
 with the permission of the Clerk of Superior Court's staff.
- 2. In an effort to correct an affidavit that, as filed, contained a typographical error, Ms. Igboanugo removed the first page of the affidavit and replaced it with a corrected first page. Ms. Igboanugo did not return the page she removed from the file to the file.
 - 3. Ms. Igboamugo is inexperienced in the practice of law.

- 4. Ms. Igboanugo did not act with any dishonest motive and did not gain anything of value by her actions.
 - 5. Ms. Igboanugo has admitted her mistakes and has apologized for them.
- 6. Ms. Igboanugo now understands that she should have left the first affidavit intact in the file and should have filed an amended affidavit.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Superior Court has inherent authority to discipline attorneys.
- 2. The actions of Ms. Igboamugo were in violation of the rules established by the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court for the handling of files.
- 3. The actions of Ms. Igboanugo are in violation of Rule 8.4(d) of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct in that they constitute conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.
- 4. Ms. Igboanugo's conduct is mitigated by her inexperience, her lack of dishonest motive, and her lack of personal gain.
 - 5. The most appropriate discipline under the circumstances is a Public Reprimand.
 THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:
 - 1. Ihuoma Igboanugo is hereby publicly reprimanded by the Court.
- 2. Ihuoma Igboanugo is hereby forbidden from checking out or otherwise being in unsupervised possession of any court file under the control of the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court unless given permission in writing by the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court.

3. A copy of this Consent Order of Reprimand shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar who will record the Consent Order of Reprimand on the judgment docket of the North Carolina State Bar.

This, the $\frac{\partial III}{\partial I}$ day of $\frac{\partial III}{\partial I}$, 2016.

G. BRYAN COLLINS, IR.

RESIDENT SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

CONSENTED TO:

IHUOMA IGBOANUGO, ES