20630

NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

05G 364

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR Petitioner)) CONSENT) ORDER OF RECIPROCAL
v.) DISCIPLINE PROCEEDING
GEORGE R. HAMO, ATTORNEY Respondent)))

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chair of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar by 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, §§ .0105(a)(12) and .0116(a) of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules and based upon the record in this matter and the consent of the parties, the undersigned finds as follows:

- 1. By order dated Feb. 11, 2005, the Attorney Discipline Board of the State of Michigan issued an order suspending the law license of the Respondent, George R. Hamo, for a period of 120 days commencing March 10, 2005.
- 2. On or about April 25, 2005, George R. Hamo was served with the North Carolina State Bar's Notice of Reciprocal Discipline Proceeding by certified mail.
- 3. The Respondent, through counsel, has consented to imposition of an order of reciprocal discipline by the North Carolina State Bar, nunc pro tune to March 10, 2005.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS and the consent of the parties, the Chair of the Grievance Committee makes the following CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

- 1. The North Carolina State Bar has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and over the person of the respondent, George R. Hamo.
- 2. The procedure for imposition of reciprocal discipline pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0116(a) of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules has been complied with.

- 3. The Feb. 10, 2005 order of the State of Michigan Attorney Discipline Board found that the Respondent paid in excess of \$44,000 to a non-attorney following referrals of prospective clients in legal matters. This conduct violates the North Carolina Revised Rules of Professional Conduct.
- 4. The order suspending Respondent's law license for 120 days imposed by the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board should be imposed on Hamo's right to practice law in the State of North Carolina.
- 5. The period of suspension of license should be the same in North Carolina as that imposed in Michigan.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The North Carolina law license of George R. Hamo is hereby suspended for a period of 120 days, beginning March 10, 2005.
- 2. Respondent is hereby taxed with the costs of this proceeding as assessed by the Secretary.
- 3. Respondent shall comply with the wind down provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0124 of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disbarment Rules.

This the 20 day of May, 2005.

Henry Cobabb, Chair Grievance Committee

Seen & Consented To:

Respondent's Counsel

Carolin Bakewell
Petitioner's Counsel