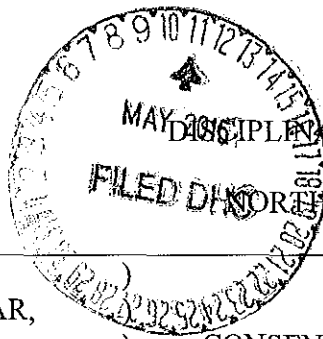


WAKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA



BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
15 DHC 2

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,

Plaintiff

v.

MARY Z. ALEXANDER REED, Attorney,

Defendant

) CONSENT ORDER TRANSFERRING
) DEFENDANT TO DISABILITY INACTIVE
) STATUS AND STAYING DISCIPLINARY
) PROCEEDING
)
)
)

THIS MATTER was considered by a hearing panel of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission composed of Steven D. Michael, Chair, Irvin W. Hankins, III, and Michael S. Edwards. Carmen Hoyme Bannon represented the North Carolina State Bar. Douglas J. Bocker represented Defendant, Mary Z. Alexander Reed. Both parties stipulate and agree to the findings of fact and conclusions of law recited in this consent order and to the transfer of Defendant to disability inactive status. Defendant freely and voluntarily waives any right to appeal the entry of this consent order transferring her to disability inactive status.

Based upon the stipulations of fact and the consent of the parties, the Hearing Panel hereby finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Plaintiff, the North Carolina State Bar (hereafter "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. Defendant, Mary Z. Alexander Reed, was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar in 1990 and is 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 relevant periods referred to herein, Reed engaged in the practice of law in the State of North Carolina and maintained a law office in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina.

4. Reed's ability to practice law is impaired by depression, panic attacks, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

5. In December 2009, Reed was the victim of a violent attack for which the perpetrator was subsequently convicted of attempted murder. Her injuries were so severe that she required more

than two weeks of hospitalization. Following this traumatic event, she sought mental health treatment for panic attacks and bouts of depression.

6. Reed currently meets the diagnostic criteria for PTSD and major depressive disorder.

7. Although Reed has been in treatment for these conditions for approximately a year, her current PTSD and depression substantially interfere with her cognitive and emotional functioning. Given the nature of Reed's prior trauma, her PTSD symptoms were frequently triggered by her work as a criminal defense attorney, and she stopped representing clients in criminal cases.

8. Reed's PTSD is a mental condition that significantly impairs her professional judgment, performance or competence as an attorney.

9. Reed's major depressive disorder may also be a mental condition that significantly impairs her professional judgment, performance or competence as an attorney.

10. Reed requests and consents to being transferred to disability inactive status.

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and the consent of the parties, the Hearing Panel makes the following

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. All parties are properly before the Disciplinary Hearing Commission, and the DHC has jurisdiction over Defendant and over the subject matter of this proceeding.

2. Reed is disabled within the meaning of 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0103(19) and should be transferred to disability inactive status pursuant to 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0118 and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(g).

3. Disciplinary proceedings in this case should be stayed as long as Reed remains in disability inactive status pursuant to 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0118(e). If Reed is returned to active status by the DHC, the disciplinary proceeding will be rescheduled by the Chair of the Commission.

ORDER

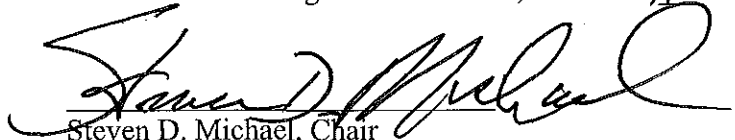
1. Defendant, Mary Z. Alexander Reed, is hereby transferred to disability inactive status in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(g) and 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0118(d)(5).

2. Reed shall refrain from practicing law in North Carolina until she is reinstated to active status by the DHC pursuant to the procedures set forth in 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0125(c).

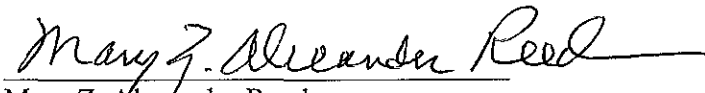
3. The disciplinary action filed by Plaintiff is stayed until such time as Defendant is reinstated to active status.

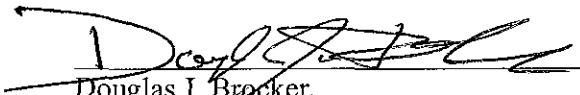
4. This order shall be effective immediately upon entry pursuant to 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0118(d)(5)(A).

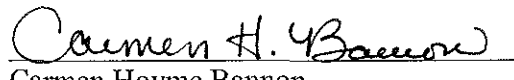
Signed by the Chair with the consent of the other Hearing Panel members, this is the 11th day of May, 2015.


Steven D. Michael, Chair
Disciplinary Hearing Panel

Consented to:


Mary Z. Alexander Reed,
Defendant


Douglas J. Brocker,
Attorney for Defendant


Carmen Hoyme Bannon,
Attorney for Plaintiff