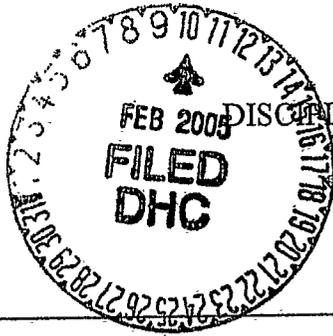


23837

WAKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA



BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
03 DHC 25

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
Plaintiff

v.

CECELIA LEWIS, ATTORNEY
Defendant

INTERIM ORDER
TRANSFERRING ATTORNEY
TO DISABILITY INACTIVE
STATUS

THIS MATTER came before the undersigned Chair of the Hearing Committee of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission assigned to this matter by telephone conference call on Feb. 8, 2005 pursuant to the motion of the Defendant, Cecelia Lewis, to continue the show cause hearing now scheduled for Feb. 9, 2005. Carolin Bakewell represented the State Bar and Cecelia Lewis appeared on her own behalf. Based upon the pleadings filed herein and the statement of the parties, the Chair hereby makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On Nov. 23, 2004, the State Bar filed a motion asking the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission to issue an order directing Cecelia Lewis ("Lewis") to appear and show cause why her law license should not be suspended for failing to comply with an order of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission dated Jan. 7, 2004.
2. On Dec. 6, 2004, the Chair granted the State Bar's motion and directed Lewis to appear and show cause, if any, why her law license should not be suspended.
3. Thereafter, Lewis alleged that she is disabled within the meaning of 27 NCAC 1B .0103(19).
4. Lewis requires more time to provide medical records to the State Bar regarding Lewis' physical and mental condition.
5. Lewis has requested that the show cause hearing herein be continued and has consented to entry of an order suspending her law license on an interim basis until the conclusion of the Commission's deliberations regarding the disability question.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. In response to the State Bar's show cause motion, the Defendant, Cecelia Lewis, has alleged that she is disabled within the meaning of 27 NCAC 1B .0103(19), thereby triggering the provisions of 27 NCAC 1B .0118(c).

2. The show cause proceeding instituted herein should be abated pending a determination by the hearing committee whether Lewis is in fact disabled within the meaning of 27 NCAC 1B .0103(19).

3. Lewis should immediately be transferred to disability inactive status on an interim basis pending the conclusion of the hearing on the disability issue.

Based upon the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Chair hereby enters the following:

ORDER

1. The Defendant, Cecelia Lewis, is hereby transferred to disability inactive status, effective immediately, until the conclusion of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission's hearing on the disability issue as provided by 27 NCAC 1B .0118(c).

2. The show cause proceeding originally scheduled for Feb. 9, 2005 is hereby abated.

3. The hearing on the disability issue is hereby scheduled to commence at 10A am. on the 25 day of March, 2005. If Lewis is not found to be disabled, the show cause proceeding shall resume immediately upon the conclusion of the disability hearing.

This the 10th day of February, 2005.



Richard T. Gammon, Chair
Disciplinary Hearing Committee