

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN RE: REINSTATEMENT OF RONALD
A. COLQUITT.

No. 45301

FILED

SEP 13 2005

[Signature]
DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT

This is a petition by attorney Ronald A. Colquitt to be reinstated to the practice of law.

On April 3, 2002, we approved a conditional guilty plea, as modified, entered by Colquitt with a panel of the Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board, and we suspended Colquitt for a period of nine months starting May 25, 2001. Under the terms of the guilty plea, Colquitt admitted to violating the following rules: SCR 79 (address of member), SCR 151 (competence), SCR 153 (diligence), SCR 154 (communication), SCR 165 (safekeeping property), SCR 166(4) (terminating representation), SCR 173(3) (fairness to opposing party and counsel: knowingly disobeying an obligation under the rules of a tribunal), SCR 200(2) (bar association and disciplinary matters), and SCR 203(4) (misconduct: conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). As set forth in the conditional guilty plea, the following requirements were imposed:

1. Colquitt was to provide the bar, within 45 days of the panel's approval of the guilty plea, an inventory of active files existing at the time of his temporary suspension, with

proof that each file was either returned to the client or surrendered to substitute counsel.

2. Colquitt was to provide the bar, within 30 days of the panel's approval of the guilty plea, an accounting of funds remaining in his trust account. Colquitt was to disburse the funds under the bar's direction.
3. Within 10 days of the panel's approval of the guilty plea, Colquitt was to pay all sanctions imposed by this court in an appeal where he had failed to meet his duties as appellate counsel.
4. Before petitioning for reinstatement, Colquitt was to complete a course in trust account record keeping and provide proof of completion to the bar.
5. Colquitt was to pay the actual costs of the disciplinary hearing within 120 days of the panel's approval of his guilty plea.

Colquitt filed a petition for reinstatement on March 19, 2003. His petition was denied, however, after we determined, based on the disciplinary panel's report and recommendation, that he had not met all of the conditions recited above.

Colquitt filed a second petition for reinstatement on January 24, 2005. This time, the disciplinary panel found that Colquitt had shown by clear and convincing evidence that he has the moral qualifications, competency, and learning in law required for readmission to the practice of law in Nevada, and that his reinstatement would not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the bar, to the administration of justice, or to

the public interest. The panel recommended that Colquitt's petition be granted, subject to certain conditions.

Having reviewed the record, we conclude that Colquitt has met his burden of proof and that clear and convincing evidence supports the panel's recommendation for reinstatement. We further conclude that the panel's first three recommendations for conditions precedent are more appropriate as conditions subsequent to Colquitt's reinstatement. Accordingly, we grant the petition and immediately reinstate Colquitt to the active practice of law, subject to the following conditions:

1. Colquitt shall resolve all issues regarding his trust account and submit proof of resolution to bar counsel within six months from the date of this order.
2. Colquitt shall take and pass the Multi-State Professional Responsibility Examination and submit proof of passage to the bar within twelve months from the date of this order.
3. Colquitt shall pay the actual costs of the reinstatement hearing within thirty days from the date of this order.
4. Colquitt shall not engage in solo practice for a period of three years following his reinstatement.
5. If Colquitt has no alternative but to resume solo practice within three years, he must notify bar counsel, and the panel will reconvene to determine what conditions shall be required of Colquitt as a solo practitioner.
6. Colquitt shall enter into a one-year mentorship upon his reinstatement, with the mentor to be approved by the bar. The mentor shall provide quarterly reports to bar counsel

during the mentorship, and the final report shall indicate if Colquitt would benefit from continuing the mentorship agreement.

It is so ORDERED.¹

Becker, C.J.
Becker

Rose, J.
Rose

Maupin, J.
Maupin

Gibbons, J.
Gibbons

Douglas, J.
Douglas

Hardesty, J.
Hardesty

Parraguirre, J.
Parraguirre

cc: Howard Miller, Chair, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board
Rob W. Bare, Bar Counsel
Allen W. Kimbrough, Executive Director, State Bar
Perry Thompson, Admissions Office, United States Supreme Court
David A. Straus

¹This is our final disposition of this matter. Any further proceedings concerning Colquitt shall be filed under a new docket number.