

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINE OF
STANLEY STEIBER, BAR NO. 2795.

No. 53426

FILED

MAR 03 2010

TRACIE K. LINDEMAN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *[Signature]*
DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER APPROVING CONDITIONAL
GUILTY PLEA AGREEMENT AND ADDENDUM

This is an automatic review of a Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board hearing panel's recommendation that we approve, pursuant to SCR 113, a conditional guilty plea and addendum thereto in exchange for a stated form of discipline for attorney Stanley Steiber.¹ Under the agreement, Steiber admitted to one violation of RPC 1.16(a) (declining or terminating representation), five violations of RPC 1.3 (diligence), five violations of RPC 1.4 (communication), and eight violations of RPC 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters).

The agreement and addendum provide for an 18-month suspension, to run from February 8, 2008, the date on which Steiber was temporarily suspended from the practice of law pending resolution of these proceedings. In addition, the agreement and addendum provide that prior to applying for reinstatement, Steiber must: (1) undergo a complete

¹Steiber was temporarily suspended from the practice of law pending resolution of these disciplinary proceedings on February 8, 2008. See In re: Discipline of Stanley Steiber, Docket No. 50996 (Order of Temporary Suspension, February 8, 2008.)

psychiatric evaluation to determine his fitness to practice law and must undertake and complete the suggested treatment arising from this evaluation; (2) retake and pass the ethics portion of the bar exam (the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination); and (3) by August 8, 2011, pay restitution to former clients totaling \$12,200, as set forth in the addendum² and pay the actual costs of the disciplinary proceedings. Additionally, to the extent that Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers (LCL) assists with the financial obligations arising from the psychiatric evaluation, provisions for Steiber to repay LCL shall be addressed at any reinstatement hearing. Finally, if Steiber is reinstated to practice law, he must enroll in the bar's mentoring program for at least one year.

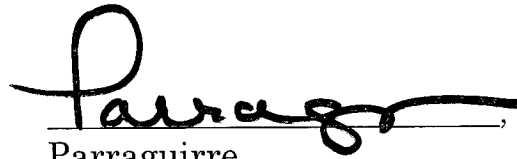
At the hearing, Steiber testified concerning overwhelming personal problems he experienced from approximately April 2006 through late 2007 and their effect on his law practice. Prior to these personal problems, Steiber had received no discipline since he was admitted in 1986. The hearing panel requested modification of the guilty plea agreement entered into by bar counsel and Steiber, to extend his suspension from 12 to 18 months and to impose additional conditions.

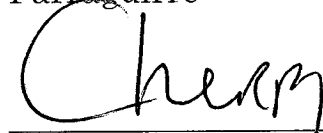
The hearing panel had the benefit of seeing and hearing the testimony. We review only the written record. Based on our review of that record, we conclude that the plea agreement and addendum, as established after enhancement by the hearing panel, should be approved. See SCR 113(1). Accordingly, we approve Steiber's already-served

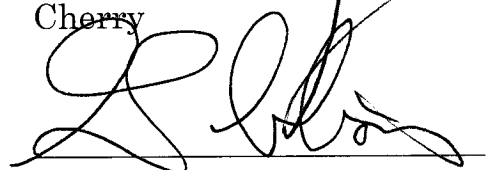
²Steiber must pay \$4,700 to Raymond Fuller; \$2,500 to Arthur Walsh, \$2,000 to Marion Morreale; \$1,500 to Peter and Dora Alberro; and \$1,500 to Pamela Bell.

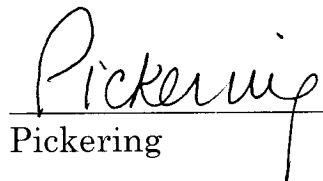
suspension from the practice of law for 18 months, effective February 8, 2008. We further direct that he shall comply with the conditions in the agreement and addendum prior to applying for reinstatement pursuant to SCR 116. The parties shall, in addition, comply with the applicable provisions of SCR 115 and SCR 121.1.

It is so ORDERED.


Parraguirre, C.J.


Cherry, J.


Gibbons, J.


Pickering, J.

HARDESTY, J., with whom DOUGLAS and SAITTA, JJ., agree, dissenting:

I respectfully dissent from the order approving Steiber's conditional guilty plea agreement and addendum. In light of Steiber's serious and numerous violations of the Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct, I believe discipline more severe than an 18-month suspension is warranted. Therefore, I would reject the conditional guilty plea and addendum and remand this matter for further disciplinary proceedings.

J. Hardesty, J.
Hardesty

We concur:

Douglas, J.
Douglas

Saitta, J.
Saitta

cc: John Mulligan, Northern Nevada Disciplinary Panel Chair
Rob Bare, Bar Counsel
David D. Loreman
Kimberly K. Farmer, Executive Director, State Bar of Nevada
Perry Thompson, Admissions Office, U.S. Supreme Court