

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

THE STATE BAR OF NEVADA,
Petitioner,
vs.
RICHARD J. SALAS,
Respondent.

No. 56167

FILED

JUL 26 2010

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

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION AND REFERRAL TO
DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Bar counsel for the State Bar of Nevada has filed a petition with this court pursuant to SCR 111 to report that attorney Richard J. Salas has been convicted of a serious crime in the State of California. The petition is supported by documentation indicating that on March 18, 2010, in the California Superior Court for Los Angeles County, Salas entered a plea of *nolo contendere* to one count of perjury under oath, a felony under California Penal Code § 118(a); and one count of workers' compensation insurance fraud, a felony under California Insurance Code § 1874.4(a)(1).¹

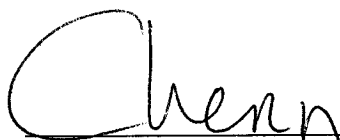
Pursuant to SCR 111, temporary suspension and referral to the appropriate disciplinary board are mandatory when an attorney has been convicted² of a serious crime, which includes felonies. See SCR

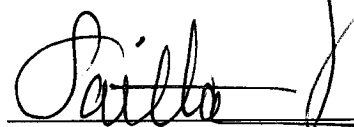
¹Salas timely reported this matter to bar counsel as required by SCR 111(2).


²For purposes of SCR 111, Salas' plea of *nolo contendere* qualifies as a conviction even though he has not yet been sentenced. See SCR 111(1).

111(6)-(8). Accordingly, pursuant to SCR 111(7), we hereby temporarily suspend attorney Richard J. Salas from the practice of law in Nevada. Furthermore, pursuant to SCR 111(8), we refer this matter to the Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board for the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings in which the sole issue to be determined shall be the extent of the discipline to be imposed.

It is so ORDERED.³


Cherry, J.


Saitta, J.


Gibbons, J.

cc: Rob W. Bare, Bar Counsel
Jeffrey R. Albregts, Chair, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board
Kimberly K. Farmer, Executive Director, State Bar of Nevada
Richard J. Salas
Perry Thompson, Admissions Office, United States Supreme Court

³This order constitutes our final disposition of this matter. Any future proceedings concerning Salas shall be docketed as a new matter.