IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF NOEL GAGE, ESQ., BAR NO. 6305.

No. 56251

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ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION AND REFERRAL TO DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Bar counsel for the State Bar of Nevada has filed a petition pursuant to SCR 111 to report that attorney Noel Gage has been convicted of a serious crime. The petition is supported by documentation indicating that on June 16, 2010, in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, a judgment of conviction was entered against Gage, pursuant to his plea under North Carolina v. Alford, 400 U.S. 25 (1970), of one count of obstruction of justice, a felony in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c).¹ United States v. Gage, No. 2:07-CR-0039-JLQ-LRL (D Nev. June 16, 2010).

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. <u>See</u> SCR

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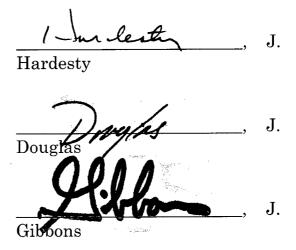
¹Gage timely reported the matter to bar counsel as required by SCR 111(2).

²For purposes of SCR 111, Gage's <u>Alford</u> plea qualifies as a conviction. <u>See SCR 111(1)</u>.

111(6)-(8). We have considered the parties' pleadings³ and conclude that no good cause has been shown why we should decline to follow the mandatory provisions of the rules requiring a temporary suspension. SCR 111(7).

Accordingly, pursuant to SCR 111(7), we hereby temporarily suspend attorney Noel Gage 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.4



³Even though an opposition to the petition is not expressly permitted by the rules, bar counsel does not oppose Gage's filing of an opposition. We have considered Gage's opposition in resolving this matter.

Bar counsel's motion to extend the time to file, and request to file, a reply to respondent's opposition is hereby granted. We direct the clerk of this court to file bar counsel's reply, which was received by this court on July 21, 2010.

⁴This order constitutes our final disposition of this matter. Any future proceedings concerning Gage shall be docketed as a new matter.

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