

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF ROBERT S.
BECKETT, ESQ., BAR NO. 3383.

No. 57280

FILED

DEC 30 2010

TRACE KALINDEMAN
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 Robert S. Beckett has been convicted of obstructing a public officer. The petition is supported by documentation indicating that on November 2, 2010, in the Justice Court of Pahrump Township in Nye County, Nevada, Beckett entered a plea of no contest to the charge of obstructing a public officer, a misdemeanor in violation of NRS 199.280.¹

Pursuant to SCR 111, temporary suspension and referral to the appropriate disciplinary board are mandatory when an attorney has been convicted of a "serious" crime. See SCR 111(6)-(8). "Serious" crime includes a crime less than a felony a necessary element of which is, as

¹For purposes of SCR 111, Beckett's plea of no contest qualifies as a "conviction" even though the terms of the plea agreement provide that the matter may be dismissed without an adjudication of guilt if Beckett completes an alcohol treatment program. See SCR 111(1). Beckett did not inform bar counsel of the conviction as required by SCR 111(2).

determined by its statutory or common-law definition, "interference with the administration of justice." SCR 111(6). NRS 199.280 defines Beckett's crime as the willful obstruction of a public officer in discharging or attempting to discharge any legal duty of his or her office, and thus involves interference with the administration of justice. Accordingly, it is a serious crime requiring that he be temporarily suspended and referred for disciplinary proceedings.

Accordingly, pursuant to SCR 111(7), we hereby temporarily suspend attorney Robert S. Beckett 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.²

Jan Hardesty, J.
Hardesty

Douglas, J.
Douglas

Pickering, J.
Pickering

²This order constitutes our final disposition of this matter. Any future proceedings concerning Beckett 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
Robert S. Beckett
Perry Thompson, Admissions Office, United States Supreme Court