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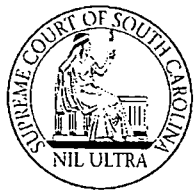
SC Court of Appeals



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

COMMISSION ON LAWYER CONDUCT

Peyre T. Lumpkin
Receiver

1220 Senate Street, Suite 111
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

(803) 734-1186
Fax: (803) 734-0227

April 9, 2018

The Honorable James E. Lockemy
Chief Administrative Judge
Court of Appeals
1220 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201

RE: Melisa White Gay
Commission File Number: 18-REC-008

Dear Judge Lockemy:

On March 21, 2018, the Supreme Court of South Carolina suspended Melisa White Gay from the practice of law and I was appointed as the Receiver to protect her client's interests under Rule 31, RLDE, Rule 413, SCACR. A copy of the Order is attached for your reference.

I am in the process of identifying and contacting Ms. Gay's clients. To date, we do not have a full and complete understanding of her trial schedule or calendar. Therefore, in the interest of protecting her clients, I would ask that you please take note of Ms. Gay's suspension, and continue any trial, hearing or filing deadline until we are able to contact her clients and distribute the files to them or to substitute counsel.

By copy of this letter to the Clerk of Court, I am informing their office of the suspension and my request for any notices concerning rosters and hearings. I thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Peyre T. Lumpkin

PTL/ac
Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings, Clerk of Court

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

In the Matter Melisa White Gay, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2018-000237

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ORDER

The Office of Disciplinary Counsel asks this Court to place Respondent on interim suspension pursuant to Rule 17(a) of the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement (RLDE) contained in Rule 413 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR). The petition also seeks appointment of the Receiver pursuant to Rule 31, RLDE, Rule 413, SCACR.

IT IS ORDERED that Respondent's license to practice law in South Carolina is suspended until further order of this Court.

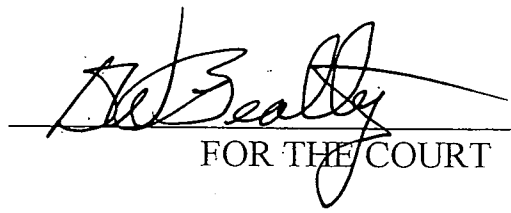
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Peyre Thomas Lumpkin, Esquire, Receiver, is hereby appointed to assume responsibility for Respondent's client files, trust account(s), escrow account(s), operating account(s), and any other law office accounts Respondent may maintain. Mr. Lumpkin shall take action as required by Rule 31, RLDE, to protect the interests of Respondent's clients. Mr. Lumpkin may make disbursements from Respondent's trust account(s), escrow account(s), operating account(s), and any other law office accounts Respondent may maintain that are necessary to effectuate this appointment.

This Order, when served on any bank or other financial institution maintaining trust, escrow and/or operating account(s) of Respondent, shall serve as an injunction to prevent Respondent from making withdrawals from the account(s) and shall further serve as notice to the bank or other financial institution that Peyre Thomas Lumpkin, Esquire, Receiver, has been duly appointed by this Court.

Finally, this Order, when served on any office of the United States Postal Service, shall serve as notice that Peyre Thomas Lumpkin, Esquire, Receiver, has been duly appointed by this Court and has the authority to receive Respondent's mail and the authority to direct that Respondent's mail be delivered to Mr. Lumpkin's office.

Mr. Lumpkin's appointment shall be for a period of no longer than nine months unless an extension of the period of appointment is requested.

Within fifteen days of the date of this order, Respondent shall serve and file the affidavit required by Rule 30, RLDE. Should Respondent fail to timely file the required affidavit, she may be held in civil and/or criminal contempt of this Court as provided by Rule 30, RLDE.



_____ C.J.
FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

March 21, 2018

cc: Deborah Stroud McKeown, Esquire
John S. Nichols, Esquire
Ericka M. Williams, Esquire
Barbara M. Seymour, Esquire
Peyre T. Lumpkin, Esquire

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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
Brenda J. Shealy
Chief Deputy Clerk, S. C. Supreme Court