Supreme Court of Florida

WHEREAS, it officially has been made known to me that it is necessary to appoint a referee for the Court pursuant to rule 3-7.6(a), Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, to preside in a contempt of court action brought by The Florida Bar in the matter of:

The Florida Bar vs. Peter G. Stamas, Supreme Court Case No. SC16-1022;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jorge Labarga, under authority vested in me as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, do hereby designate The Honorable Jeffrey J. Colbath, Chief Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, to appoint a referee for the Court in the above matter and, within fourteen days of this order, to notify the Clerk of the Florida Supreme Court and the parties as to the judge appointed as referee. The referee shall hear, conduct, try, and determine the matters presented and thereafter shall submit findings of fact and recommendations to the Supreme Court of Florida as provided in rule 3-7.6(m). Pursuant to rule 3-7.6(n)(3), bar counsel shall assist the referee in the preparation of the index and record in this cause. Pursuant to rule 3-7.6(m)(1), any order by the referee regarding disposition of the case shall be merely a recommendation to this Court.

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Such an order shall not dispose of the proceedings. This Court shall review and, if appropriate, approve the referee's recommended disposition order.

The referee's report shall be filed within 180 days of his or her appointment, unless there are substantial reasons requiring delay.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on October 13, 2016.

SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

ATTEST:

John A. Tomasino Clerk, Supreme Court

Enclosed: Petition for Contempt and Order to Show Cause, Exhibits A-S, Possible Venue, Order dated June 9, 2016, Verified Response to Order to Show Cause and Request for Extension of Time, The Florida Bar's Response to Verified Response to Order to Show Cause and Request for Extension of Time, Exhibits A-F, Notice of Filing, Order dated July 21, 2016, The Florida Bar's Amended Notice of Filing, Exhibit A.

A previous case involving this respondent was assigned to the Honorable Daliah Handel Weiss.