

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA
(Before a Referee)

THE FLORIDA BAR,
Complainant,

Supreme Court Case
No. SC21-1675

v.

The Florida Bar File
No. 2021-30,198 (5A) (CES)

MELANIE L. JOHNSON,
Respondent.

_____ /

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPORT OF REFEREE

COMES NOW, The Florida Bar on behalf of the Honorable Laurie E. Buchanan, and moves this Court for an extension of time for the Referee to file her report and says:

1. This Court issued its order suspending respondent and directing the Chief Judge to appoint a referee within 14 days with the report of referee to be filed within 90 days of the order appointing the referee, or March 14, 2022.
2. The referee was appointed on December 13, 2021. The final hearing is currently set for February 25, 2022.
3. However, respondent filed a Motion for Continuance on February 17, 2022, due to technical difficulties with her computer.

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Respondent needs additional time to respond to The Florida Bar's discovery requests and prepare for the final hearing.

4. Respondent has signed a waiver of the ninety-day time requirement that was accepted by the referee, on February 21, 2022, pursuant to Rule 3-5.2(n) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. The waiver is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5. The Referee now requests additional time to file the report of referee in this matter.

6. The bar has no objection to an extension of time to file the report of referee.

7. Respondent has no objection to this motion.

WHEREFORE, The Florida Bar prays this Honorable Court will issue an order granting the referee an extension of time until April 30, 2022 to file her report in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that this Motion for Extension of Time to File Report of Referee has been e-filed with The Honorable John A. Tomasino, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Florida, with a copy provided to Melanie L. Johnson, Respondent, 4790 Longbow Drive, Titusville, FL 32796-1403, via email at mel.johnsonlaw@gmail.com, to Carrie Constance Lee, Co-Bar Counsel, The Florida Bar, 1000 Legion Place, Suite 1625, Orlando, FL 32801-1050, via email at clee@floridabar.org, to The Honorable Laurie E. Buchanan, Referee, St. Lucie County Courthouse, 218 S. 2nd Street, Fort Pierce, FL 34950-4300, via email to WatsonC@circuit19.org, and via email to Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300, at psavitz@floridabar.org, on this 22nd day of February, 2022.

Ashley Morrison

Ashley Taylor Morrison, Bar Counsel