

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
BERNICE MARIE STAFFORD TURNER**

**VSB DOCKET NO. 26-033-137628**

**INTERIM SUSPENSION ORDER**

Pursuant to Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-6.G.3. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, it is **ORDERED** that Bernice Marie Stafford Turner's license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia be and hereby is suspended effective May 22, 2026. The Suspension shall remain in effect until the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board ("the Board") determines that Bernice Marie Stafford Turner ("Respondent") has fully complied with the subpoena *duces tecum* served on February 20, 2026.

It is further **ORDERED** that the Respondent must comply with the requirements of Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Respondent must forthwith give notice by certified mail, of the Suspension of her license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, to all clients for whom she is currently handling matters and to all opposing Attorneys and presiding Judges in pending litigation. The Respondent must also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in her care in conformity with the wishes of her client. The Respondent must give such notice immediately and in no event later than fourteen (14) days of the effective date of the Suspension, and make such arrangements as are required herein as soon as is practicable and in no event later than forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the Suspension. The Respondent must also furnish proof to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System ("the Clerk") of the Virginia State Bar within sixty (60) days of the effective day of the Suspension that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements have been

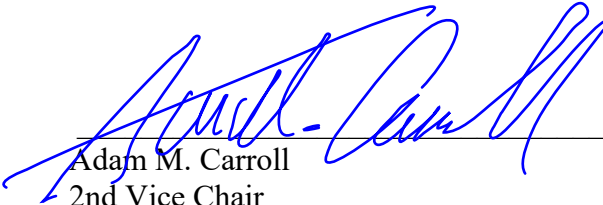
made for the disposition of matters.

It is further **ORDERED** that if the Respondent is not handling any client matters on the effective date of the Suspension, she shall submit an affidavit to that effect to the Clerk. The Board must decide all issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required herein. The burden of proof shall be on the Respondent to show compliance. If the Respondent fails to show compliance, the Board may impose a sanction of Revocation or additional Suspension for failure to comply with the requirements of subparagraph 13-29.

It is further **ORDERED** that all notices specified in Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-29 must be given even if the Respondent is reinstated within fourteen 14 days of the Suspension.

It is further **ORDERED** that an attested copy of this Order be mailed by the Clerk to the Respondent by electronic, first-class, and certified mail to her address of record with the Virginia State Bar, being PO Box 25852 Richmond, VA 23260, and a copy by electronic mail to Shelley L. Spalding, Senior Assistant Bar Counsel.

ENTERED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2026  
VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

  
Adam M. Carroll  
2nd Vice Chair