IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN RE: DISCIPLINE OF JEFFREY MORRISON.

No. 41907

AUG 20 2003

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

This is a petition by the Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board Chair for an order temporarily suspending attorney Jeffrey D. Morrison from the practice of law, pending the resolution of formal disciplinary proceedings against him.¹ The petition and supporting documentation demonstrate that Morrison appears to have misappropriated over \$8,000 from his clients, has failed to respond to the state bar's inquiries despite

SCR 102(4)(a) provides, in pertinent part:

being personally served, and has neglected his clients' cases.

¹This matter was originally docketed as confidential because a formal disciplinary complaint had not yet been filed. See SCR 121. Since we are granting the petition, we conclude that this matter should now be open to the public. We direct the clerk of this court to amend the caption on this court's docket to conform to the caption on this order.

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On the petition of a disciplinary board, signed by its chairman or vice chairman, supported by an affidavit alleging facts personally known to the affiant which shows that an attorney appears to be posing a substantial threat of serious harm to the public, the supreme court may issue an order, with notice as the court may prescribe, imposing an immediate temporary suspension of the attorney....

In addition, SCR 102(4)(b) provides that this court may place restrictions on an attorney's handling of funds.

We conclude that the documentation before us demonstrates that Morrison poses a substantial threat of serious harm, and that his immediate temporary suspension is warranted.² We further conclude that Morrison's handling of funds should be restricted.

Accordingly, Morrison is temporarily suspended from the practice of law, pending the resolution of formal disciplinary proceedings against him.³ In addition, Morrison shall be prohibited from withdrawing funds in his client trust account, or from any other account containing funds belonging to third parties, except upon written approval of bar

²See SCR 102(4)(a).

³Under SCR 102(4)(c), Morrison is prohibited from accepting new clients immediately. He may continue to represent existing clients for fifteen days. Any fees or other funds received from or on behalf of clients during this fifteen-day period shall be deposited in a trust account, from which no withdrawals may be made except upon written approval of bar counsel or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

counsel or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction. The State Bar shall forthwith serve Morrison with a copy of this order. Such service may be accomplished by personal service, certified mail, or delivery to a person of suitable age at Morrison's law office or residence. When served on either Morrison or a depository in which he maintains an account, this order shall constitute an injunction against withdrawal of the proceeds except in accordance with the terms of this order.⁴

It is so ORDERED.⁵

Shearing, J.
Leavitt

Becker J.

cc: Patrick V. Fagan, Chair, Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board Rob W. Bare, Bar Counsel Allen W. Kimbrough, Executive Director Jeffrey D. Morrison

This is our final disposition of this matter. Any new proceedings concerning Morrison shall be docketed under a new docket number.

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⁴See SCR 102(4)(b).

⁵Morrison and the state bar shall comply with SCR 115.