

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

NO. 2014-BA-2393

IN RE: COMMITTEE ON BAR ADMISSIONS CFN-145

BAR ADMISSIONS PROCEEDING

PER CURIAM*

Petitioner successfully passed the Louisiana Bar Examination. However, the Committee on Bar Admissions (“Committee”) advised petitioner that it was unable to certify him for admission to the bar on character and fitness grounds, citing his failure to update his law school application to disclose two criminal offenses with which he was charged while he was a law student.

On petitioner’s application to this court, we remanded this matter to the Committee on Bar Admissions Panel on Character and Fitness to conduct an investigation and appointed a commissioner to take character and fitness evidence. The commissioner held a character and fitness hearing pursuant to Supreme Court Rule XVII, § 9(D)(6). A representative of the law school testified at the hearing and explained that when petitioner submitted his application in 2011, there was no requirement to notify the law school of criminal charges that arose after enrollment.

Following the proceedings, the commissioner filed his report with this court, finding that petitioner should not be denied admission for failing to update his law application to disclose criminal charges that occurred in 2012 and 2013, after he was enrolled in law school, as the law school’s application form did not require such a disclosure. Nevertheless, the commissioner found that petitioner did not act

* Weimer, J., recused.

consistently with the high standards of conduct expected of lawyers. Accordingly, the commissioner recommended that petitioner be conditionally admitted to the practice of law. Neither party objected to this recommendation.

Considering the commissioner's recommendation, the absence of any objection from the parties, and the entire record of this proceeding, we conclude petitioner is eligible to be admitted to the practice of law in Louisiana, subject to the following conditions:

- I. The term of this conditional admission shall be for one year from the date of admission. However, petitioner's conditional admission status shall not be terminated until this court so orders.
- II. During the period of this conditional admission, petitioner shall attend and successfully complete the Louisiana State Bar Association's Ethics School program.
- III. Within thirty days prior to the expiration of the conditional admission, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel shall file a report in this court in which it shall recommend to the court that the conditional admission be allowed to terminate or be extended.

Should petitioner fail to make a good faith effort to satisfy these conditions, or should he commit any misconduct during the period of probation, his conditional right to practice may be terminated or he may be subjected to other discipline pursuant to the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement.

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION GRANTED.