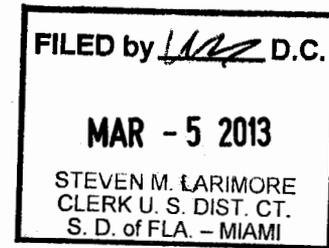


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2013-15

**IN RE: REFERENCE TO AD HOC COMMITTEE
ON ATTORNEY ADMISSIONS, PEER REVIEW,
AND ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE FOR THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**



ORDER OF REFERENCE

On November 16, 2010, this Court issued Administrative Order 2010-136 adopting the Report and Recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee for Attorney Admissions, Peer Review, and Attorney Grievance regarding Attorney Maria Elena Perez. The Court had referred Ms. Perez to the Committee to review her actions in *United States of America v. Saul-Acuna-Acosta, a/k/a Samuel Medina-Flores*, Case No. 08-80004-CR-MIDDLEBROOKS, and to make recommendations on whether discipline should be imposed on Ms. Perez. In adopting the Committee's Report, the Court allowed the Committee to retain jurisdiction for six months and ordered that Ms. Perez report to the Committee regarding any changes in her practice. Additionally, the Court assigned attorney Jeffrey S. Weiner, Esq. to mentor Ms. Perez for the six-month period. Mr. Weiner furnished the Court with a report regarding Ms. Perez on May 20, 2011.

Recently, the Court has learned that Ms. Perez has engaged in conduct that warrants additional review by the Committee. The specific issue is whether Ms. Perez acted unethically in accepting monies from the National Collegiate Athletic Association for her work on three depositions in the bankruptcy case of Nevin Shapiro's grocery-trading company, Capitol Investments USA, Inc.. At the time of the depositions, Ms. Perez was also representing Nevin Shapiro, who is currently serving a 20-year prison sentence for running a \$930 million fraud scheme. Accordingly,

it is

ORDERED that the Committee shall review attorney Maria Elena Perez's actions and make a recommendation to this Court on whether any discipline should be imposed. The Report and Recommendation from the Committee shall be made by no later than **May 8, 2013**.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 4th day of March, 2013.



FEDERICO A. MORENO
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

- c: Honorable Joel F. Dubina, Chief Judge, Eleventh Circuit
- All Miami Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Judges
- All Southern District and Magistrate Judges
- United States Attorney
- Circuit Executive
- Federal Public Defender
- Clerk of Court
- Clerk of Court, 11th Circuit
- National Lawyer Regulatory Data Bank
- Florida Bar
- Attorney Admissions Clerk
- Library
- Maria Elena Perez