

At the hearing, Bowen stated that many of her failings in this case were a result of computer difficulties. Utilizing a modern twist on the “dog ate my homework” excuse, Bowen stated that she believes the Department of Homeland Security has been going into her computer system and tampering with her files. The Court does not believe Bowen’s conspiracy theory, not only because it is outlandish, but also because her dilatory conduct and incompetence throughout this case gives this Court no reason to believe her. In addition, regardless of what computer difficulties she may or may not have had, that is still no excuse for her conduct in this case.¹

This Court is going to impose sanctions against Bowen. It is simply a matter of which ones will be imposed. The Court stated at the hearing that there is a strong possibility it will disbar Bowen from practicing in the Middle District of Georgia. Bowen replied by stating that she is considering voluntarily resigning from the practice of law. She said that she would reach that decision by the middle of August.

As a result of the possibility that Bowen will voluntarily relinquish her law license, there is no reason at this time for the Court to consider whether to disbar her. Bowen is ordered to file with this Court, not later than August 17, 2009, a report that states whether she is going to surrender her law license. If she does not surrender it, the Court will consider whether to disbar her. In addition, regardless of

¹The Court will outline Bowen’s failings in the order imposing sanctions.

whether she decides to relinquish her license, the Court will consider the amount of monetary sanctions to be imposed against her. There is also a strong possibility that Bowen will be liable for some of the attorney's fees that will be assessed against her client. See 28 U.S.C. 1927. The Court therefore reserves ruling on the appropriate sanctions to be imposed against Bowen until after August 17, 2009.

As for the amount of fees to be awarded to PCA, the Court reserves ruling on that issue until Bowen's client, Matthew Williams, has had the opportunity to consult with new counsel. Williams has until August 17, 2009, to retain new counsel, if he so desires. By that date, Williams should inform this Court whether he has retained a new attorney. The Court will decide at that time how to proceed with the assessment of attorney's fees.

The Clerk is directed to mail a copy of this Order to Williams at his home address: 4775 Bethany Drive, Hahira, Georgia 31632. The Clerk is also directed to mail a copy of this Order to Bowen's business address: The Bowen Law Firm, 210 Bayberry Run, Fairburn, GA 30213.

SO ORDERED, this the 20th day of July, 2009.

s/ Hugh Lawson

HUGH LAWSON, Judge

dhc