STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

OCT 20 NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

17 BCS 3

17 BCS 3

IN THE MATTER OF THE TENDER OF SURRENDER OF LICENSE OF

ORDER OF DISBARMENT

MITAL M. PATEL

THIS MATTER coming on to be heard and being heard by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0121(a) of the State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules upon tender of an affidavit of surrender of license executed by Mital M. Patel ("Patel") on October 24, 2017 and filed in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar on October 24, 2017.

Based upon the affidavit, the Council finds that Mital M. Patel misappropriated funds entrusted to him in a fiduciary capacity in violation of Rules 8.4(c) and 1.15-2(j) of the Rules of Professional Conduct in effect at the time of the conduct. Mital M. Patel's conduct is grounds for discipline pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(b)(2).

WHEREFORE, upon motion made and duly seconded, the Council enters the following Order:

- 1. The tender of surrender of license of Mital M. Patel is hereby accepted.
- 2. Mital M. Patel is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina.
- 3. Patel shall comply with the provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0128 of the State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules. Patel shall surrender his license and permanent membership card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar along with the affidavit required by § .0128 of the State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules within ten days after the expiration of the wind-down period provided under § .0121(e).
- 4. The administrative fees and costs of this action are taxed against Patel.
- 5. Patel shall comply with the reinstatement provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0129.
- 6. Within fifteen days of the effective date of this Order Patel shall provide the State Bar with an address and telephone number at which clients seeking return of files can communicate with Patel and obtain such files.
- 7. Patel shall promptly return client files in his possession, custody, or control to clients upon request, within five days of receipt of such request.

8. Patel will be deemed to have received any such request three days after the date such request is sent to Patel if the request is sent to the address Patel provided the State Bar pursuant to the preceding paragraph 6.

Done and ordered this the 2 kg day of October, 2017.

Mark W. Merritt, President The North Carolina State Bar

2



Mital M. Patel, being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I desire to surrender and hereby tender my license to practice law in North Carolina.
- 2. My surrender is freely and voluntarily rendered, and is not the result of coercion or duress. I am fully aware of the implications of submitting my resignation.
- 3. I am aware that there is a pending investigation by the State Bar regarding allegations that I misappropriated at least \$3,300.00 of fiduciary funds.
- 4. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the investigation is predicated are true.
- 5. I am submitting my resignation because I know that if disciplinary charges were predicated upon the misconduct under investigation, I could not successfully defend against them.

This is the $\frac{23}{2}$ day of October, 2017.

Mital M. Patel

I, Lane Step CVS, Notary Public of the County of Wake State of MC , State of MC , certify that Mital M. Patel personally appeared before me this day, was sworn, attested that the foregoing Affidavit is true and accurate of her own personal knowledge, and executed the foregoing Affidavit.

This the 23 day of Cotober, 2017

Notary Public

My commission expires: 3-3-2022

LIANE STEPHENS
Notary Public, North Carolina
Wake County
My Commission Expires
March 03, 2022