

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

85-CRS-49342

IN THE MATTER OF)

JEROME PAUL)

JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

This cause came on for hearing before the undersigned Judge presiding at an August 8, 1985, session of the Superior Court of Wake County upon a proceedings for discipline of an attorney, Jerome Paul. Attorney Paul was personally present in open Court and represented by Attorney Henry Temple of the Wake County Bar. The State of North Carolina was represented by Attorney James Blackburn. The Court finds the following facts having been satisfied thereof by clear, cogent and convincing proof:

1. That Jerome Paul is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of North Carolina.

2. That Jerome Paul was convicted by this Court on this date of the criminal offense of criminal contempt and was sentenced to 30 days confinement, a copy of which judgment is attached.

3. That pursuant to the General Statutes of North Carolina, Chapter 84 and pursuant to the inherent powers of this Court, the Court has authority to impose disciplinary sanctions against Attorney Paul for such criminal conviction showing professional unfitness. [G.S. 84-28(b)(1)].

4. Attorney Paul had notice of the Court's intention to conduct this disciplinary proceeding by its show cause order of July 24, 1985, which was personally served upon Attorney Paul, a copy of which is attached.

5. The offense for which Attorney Paul has been convicted directly involved his practice as an attorney and directly reflected upon his fitness to engage in the profession of attorney and counselor at law.

6. Attorney Paul's conduct is such as to demean and bring into disrepute and disgrace the practice and profession of an attorney and to bring contempt upon the administration of justice.

7. Attorney Paul has been previously held in contempt for similar misconduct in 1975 [In Re Paul, 28 NCApp 610 (1976)] and has twice been disciplined by the suspension of his license to practice law by the North Carolina State Bar for serious attorney misconduct; however, he still does not appear to appreciate the necessity of complying with the rules and conduct expected of attorneys licensed by the State of North Carolina and willfully refuses to do so.

8. The Courtroom is not a public hall for the expression of views, nor a political arena or a street. It is a place for the trial of cases on their merits in accordance with rules of law and standards of demeanor and conduct for judges, jurors, parties, witnesses, spectators and counsel. (In Re Paul, 28 NC App at 619) Attorney Paul by his conduct refuses to accept that basic principle of his profession.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS OF FACT, THE COURT
CONCLUDES AS A MATTER OF LAW:

1. That Attorney Jerome Paul has been convicted of a
criminal offense, showing professional unfitness. [G.S. 84-28(b)(1)].

2. That Attorney Jerome Paul's conduct is such as to warrant
disbarment by this Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Jerome Paul is herewith disbarred from the practice
of law and profession as an attorney in the State of North
Carolina.

2. That Jerome Paul shall forthwith transmit his license
certificate and membership card to the North Carolina State Bar,
Post Office Box 2590, 208 Fayetteville Street Mall, Raleigh, NC
27611

3. That Jerome Paul shall not practice law in North Carolina
unless and until his license may be restored pursuant to the
reinstatement procedures of the North Carolina State Bar.

4. That the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wake County shall
forthwith certify a copy of this Order to the North Carolina State
Bar.

This the 9th day of August, 1985.

Donald W. Stephens
Superior Court Judge Presiding

A TRUE COPY
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
WAKE COUNTY
Carolyn Concell
Clerk of Superior Court

APPEAL ENTRIES

Notice of Appeal was given in open court. Jerome Paul is allowed 60 days within which to prepare and serve upon the State a proposed record on appeal. The State is allowed 30 days to serve exceptions or counter case.

This the 9th day of August, 1985.

Donald W. Stephens
Superior Court Judge Presiding

A TRUE COPY

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
WAKE COUNTY

BY Carolyn C. Cull
Clerk of Superior Court