

This matter came before the undersigned Chair of The Disciplinary Hearing Commission pursuant to 27 N.C.A.C. 1B §.0121(d) upon an affidavit of surrender of license executed by John O. Lafferty, Jr. on April 4, 2019 and filed in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar on April 5, 2019.

Based upon the pleadings and the record, the undersigned makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Plaintiff, the North Carolina State Bar (hereafter "State Bar"), is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted it in Chapter 84 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar promulgated thereunder.
- 2. Defendant, John O. Lafferty, Jr., was licensed to practice law in North Carolina in 1972, and during all relevant periods herein he was an Attorney at Law subject to the rules, regulations, and Rules of Professional Conduct of the North Carolina State Bar and the laws of the State of North Carolina.
- 3. On July 24, 2018, the North Carolina State Bar filed a formal complaint against Defendant alleging that he willfully failed to timely file federal and state income tax returns for the years 2000 through 2017, failed to pay an indeterminate amount of federal and state income taxes due for the years 2000 through 2017, and knowingly failed to timely respond to the State Bar's investigation inquiries.
- 4. This conduct as set forth in the complaint constitutes violations of Rule 8.4(b) and (c), and Rule 8.1(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and as such constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(b)(2).

5. Defendant has indicated his consent to disbarment by filing an affidavit of surrender with the Disciplinary Hearing Commission. The affidavit meets all requirements set forth in 27 N.C.A.C. 1B §.0121(a)(1)-(4) and (d).

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the undersigned makes the following

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. 27 N.C.A.C. 1B §.0108(a)(6) provides that the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission has the power and duty to enter orders disbarring members by consent.
- 2. 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0121(d) provides that the Chair of the DHC will accept the surrender and issue an order of disbarment upon determination that an affidavit of surrender filed pursuant to this subsection meets the requirements set out in 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0121(a)(1), (2), (3), (4).
- 3. Defendant's affidavit meets all requirements set forth in 27 N.C.A.C. 1B §.0121(a)(1)-(4) and (d) and the facts upon which the affidavit is predicated warrant Defendant's disbarment.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the undersigned Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission enters the following

ORDER

- 1. The surrender of the license of John O. Lafferty, Jr. is hereby accepted.
- 2. John O. Lafferty, Jr. is DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina effective upon the entry of this order with the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar.
- 3. John O. Lafferty, Jr. shall comply with the provisions of 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0121(e) and § .0128 of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules and shall surrender his license and permanent membership card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar along with the affidavit required by 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0128(d) of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules.
 - 4. The costs and administrative fees of this action are taxed against Defendant.

This the 5 day of April, 2019.

Donald C. Prentiss, Chair

Disciplinary Hearing Commission

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA ORE THE EARING COMMISSION ROLINA STATE BAR WAKE COUNTY 18 DHC 39 THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR, Plaintiff AFFIDAVIT OF SURRENDER OF LAW LICENSE JOHN O. LAFFERTY, JR., Attorney, Defendant John O. Lafferty, Jr., first being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows: 1. I desire to resign and hereby tender my license to practice law in North Carolina. 2. My resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered. It 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 pending a complaint against me before the Disciplinary Hearing Commission alleging that I 1) willfully failed to timely file federal and state income tax returns for the years 2000 and through 2017, 2) willfully failed to pay an indeterminate amount of federal and state income taxes due for the years 2000 through 2017, and 3) knowingly failed to timely respond to the State Bar's investigation inquiries. 4. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the pending complaint is predicated are true. 5. I am submitting my resignation because I know that I could not successfully defend against the pending disciplinary charges. This the 4 day of April, 2019. John D. Lafferty, Jr. () Notary Public of the County of North Carolina, certify that John O. Lafferty, Jr. 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.

Notary Public

NOTARY PUBLIC Lincoln County, NC My Commission Expires March 23, 2024