

FILED

WAKE COUNTY 2017 JAN 12 P 1:05 IN THE GENERAL COURTS OF JUSTICE  
NORTH CAROLINA WAKE CO., C.S.C. SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
16 CVS 14668

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BY \_\_\_\_\_ )  
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR, )  
PETITIONER, )  
v. ) CONSENT ORDER  
CHRISTOPHER E. GREENE, ) OF DISBARMENT  
RESPONDENT. )

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THIS MATTER came before the undersigned Judge of the Superior Court of Wake County. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, was represented by Carmen H. Bannon. Respondent, Christopher E. Greene, was represented by F. Lane Williamson.

Based upon the Affidavit of Surrender of Law License submitted to the court by Greene, and the consent of the parties, the court makes the following:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Greene was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar in 1998 and is, and was at all times referred to herein, an attorney at law licensed to practice in North Carolina, 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.

2. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, is a state agency vested with the authority to regulate the practice of law in North Carolina. The State Bar 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 (Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the North Carolina Administrative Code).

3. Greene's address of record in the State Bar's membership database is: 5500 Executive Center Drive, Suite 222, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212.

4. During all of the periods relevant hereto, Greene was engaged in the practice of law in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

5. In and after 2011, Greene sent electronic messages to clients containing sexual and sexually-suggestive subject matter during the existence of the attorney-client relationship and had sexual relations as defined in Rule of Professional Conduct 1.19(d) with clients during the existence of the attorney-client relationship. Several of these clients with whom he had sexual relations are currently his clients, and all of these clients were immigration clients and were especially vulnerable.

6. Greene desires to resign his license to practice law and has tendered his license to practice law in North Carolina.

7. Greene's resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered. It is not the result of coercion or duress. Greene is fully aware of the implication of submitting his resignation.

8. Greene acknowledges that the material facts upon which the investigation is predicated are true.

9. Greene has submitted his resignation because he knows that if disciplinary charges were predicated upon the misconduct under investigation, he could not successfully defend against them.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and the consent of the parties, the court makes the following:

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Greene's conduct violates North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct 1.7, 1.19, 8.4(d) and 8.4(g).

2. Greene's misconduct constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(b)(2).

3. The courts of this State have the inherent authority to take disciplinary action against attorneys licensed to practice law in North Carolina.

4. This Court has jurisdiction over the person of Christopher E. Greene and over the subject matter of this proceeding.

5. Greene has engaged in professional misconduct warranting disbarment.

### **IT IS NOW, THEREFORE, ORDERED:**

1. Christopher E. Greene is DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina.

2. Greene shall comply with the provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Section .0128 of the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar and shall surrender his license and permanent membership card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar along with the affidavit required by § .0128.

3. Greene shall not petition for reinstatement of his law license until the expiration of at least five (5) years from the effective date of this order.

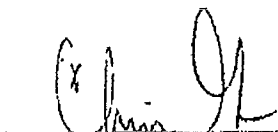
4. Greene's law license shall not be reinstated until he has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission and the Council of the North Carolina State Bar that he has complied with 27 N.C. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Section .0129.


5. The costs of this action are taxed against Greene.


Done and Ordered this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

  
Superior Court Judge Presiding

CONSENT TO BY:

  
Christopher E. Greene  
Respondent

  
F. Lane Williamson  
Attorney for Respondent

  
Carmen H. Bannon  
Deputy Counsel, North Carolina State Bar  
Attorney for Petitioner

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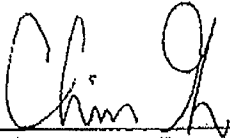
AFFIDAVIT OF  
SURRENDER OF LAW LICENSE

Christopher E. Greene, being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

1. I desire to resign and hereby tender my license to practice law in North Carolina pursuant to the provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Section .0117 of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules.
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. I affirm that I have obtained the advice and counsel of an attorney before submitting this Affidavit.
3. I am aware that there is pending an investigation regarding allegations that in and after 2011, I sent electronic messages to clients containing sexual and sexually-suggestive subject matter during the existence of the attorney-client relationship, that I had sexual relations as defined in Rule of Professional Conduct 1.19(d) with clients during the existence of the attorney-client relationship, that several of these clients with whom I had sexual relations are currently my clients, and that all of these clients were immigration clients and were especially vulnerable.
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.

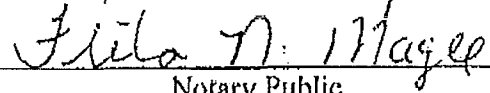
This the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher E. Greene

I, Fleta N Magee, Notary Public of the County of Mecklenburg State of North Carolina, certify that Christopher E. Greene personally appeared before me this day, was sworn, attested that the foregoing Affidavit is true and accurate of his own personal knowledge, and executed the foregoing Affidavit.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This the 10 day of January, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: April 12, 2021

