NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE

DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR 87 DHC 10

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR, Plaintiff FINDINGS OF FACT AND vs. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW GEORGE R. MORROW, SR. Attorney, Defendant

This cause was heard by the undersigned, duly appointed Hearing Committee of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission of the North Carolina State Bar consisting of John B. McMillan, Chairman, Fred Folger, Jr. and R. Powell Majors on Friday, October 16, 1987. The Plaintiff was represented by L. Thomas Lunsford, II and the Defendant was represented by Robert B. Long, Jr. The Defendant was not present. Based upon the pleadings and the stipulations of the parties, the Hearing Committee makes the following Findings of Fact:

- The Plaintiff, the North Carolina 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.
- The Defendant, George R. Morrow, Sr., was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar on April 23, 1951, 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, Code of Professional Responsibility and Rules of Professional Conduct of the North Carolina State Bar and the laws of the State of North Carolina.
- During all of the periods referred to herein, the Defendant was actively engaged in the practice of law in the State of North Carolina and maintained a law office in the City of Forest City, Rutherford County, North Carolina.

On February 3, 1987, the Defendant pleaded guilty to the crime of conspiracy to defraud an agency of the United States in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371, as charged in Count 8 of the Bill of Indictment which was attached to the complaint in this action. United States District Court Judge Woodrow W. Jones accepted the Defendant's plea and sentenced the Defendant to be imprisoned for a term of four years.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Committee enters the following Conclusions of Law:

> The conviction of the Defendant as set forth above constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §84-28(b)(1) and (2) in that the Defendant's crime demonstrates professional unfitness and reflects adversely upon his fitness as a lawyer in violation of Disciplinary Rule 1-102(A)(6) of the North Carolina Code of Professional Responsibility and its successor, Rule 1.2(B) of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct.

This the 17^{t} day of

1987.

John B. McMillan, Chairman NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
STATE PAR
STATE PAR

THE	north	CAROLINA STATE BAR, plaintiff)				
		vs.		•))	ORDER	OF	DISCIPLINE
GEOR	GE R	MORROW, S	SR., At efendan)			

This cause was heard by the undersigned, duly appointed Hearing Committee of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission of the North Carolina State Bar on Friday, October 16, 1987. Based upon the evidence at hearing in regard to the circumstances of the Defendant's plea of guilty as described in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law previously entered herein, the Hearing Committee makes the following Findings of Fact relative to the appropriate disciplinary sanction:

- 1. The Defendant has no prior record of professional misconduct.
- In entering his plea of guilty, the Defendant did so upon the authority of <u>Alford v. North Carolina</u> and did not admit his guilt. He has continually maintained that he is innocent of the charge of which he stands convicted.
- In consideration of the Defendant's plea of guilty and that entered by his son, George R. Morrow, Jr., all criminal charges pending against the Defendant's secretary, Frances K. Rhymer, were dismissed by the government.
- 4. During the course of plea negotiations, the Defendant and his counsel were given to understand by the government that the government would not enter into a negotiated plea agreement with the Defendant's son unless the Defendant agreed to plead guilty to participation in a "Klein conspiracy" as charged in Count 8 of the indictment.

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law entered in this case and the further Findings of Fact set forth above in regard to the appropriate disciplinary sanction, the Hearing Committee enters this Order of Discipline.

- 1. The Defendant shall be disbarred for his misconduct, the effective date of the Defendant's disbarment being the date upon which he entered his guilty plea, February 3, 1987.
- The Defendant shall pay the costs of this proceeding.

This the 17^{n} day of Number, 1987.

John B. McMillan, Chairman Hearing Committee

(For the Committee)