NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY



BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR 04 BCS 3

IN THE MATTER OF THESE TENDER OF LICENSE OF:

ORDER OF DISBARMENT

TODD A. CLINE, ATTORNEY

THIS MATTER coming on to be heard and being heard by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to Section .0017 of Subchapter B of the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar upon an affidavit of tender of license executed by Todd A. Cline and filed in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar on 21 June 2004.

Based upon the affidavit of tender of license, the Council finds that Todd A. Cline misappropriated funds entrusted to him as the Executor of the Estate of Edward F. Swann, Jr. for his own personal use and falsified estate accountings under oath to the Clerk of Court. Further, the Council finds that the amount misappropriated by Todd A. Cline was \$80,000 and that Todd A. Cline has made full restitution to the Estate of Edward F. Swann, Jr. The Council also finds that Todd A. Cline has waived his right to be heard before the Council. The Council concludes that the conduct of Todd A. Cline constitutes grounds for discipline under N.C. Gen. Stat. §84-28(b)(2) in that Todd A. Cline violated Rules 1.15-2(a), (j), and (m); 3.3(a)(1) and (3); and 8.4(a), (b), and (c) of the Revised Rules of Professional Conduct and that the Council may enter an order of discipline accordingly.

WHEREFORE, upon motion duly made and seconded, the Council of the North Carolina State Bar enters the following order:

- 1. The tender of surrender of license of Todd A. Cline is hereby accepted.
- 2. Todd A. Cline is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina.
- 3. Todd A. Cline will comply with the provisions of Subchapter B, Section .0024 of the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar and will surrender his license and permanent registration card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar along with the affidavit required by Subchapter B, Section .0024 within 30 days of service of this order upon him.
- 4. The costs of this action as assessed by the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar are taxed against Todd A. Cline and will be paid within 30 days of assessment.

Done and Ordered, this the 16th day of July, 2004.

Dudley Humphrey, President

The North Carolina State Bar

NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY)	BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH CAROLINATE BAR! [3]
IN RE: TODD A.	CUNE	AFFIDAVIT TENDERING THE
	EY AT LAW	SURRENDER OF THE LICENSE OF TODD A. CLINE

I, Todd A. Cline, being first duly sworn, say:

- 1. I desire to resign and hereby tender my license to practice law in North Carolina pursuan t to the provisions of Section .0117 of Subchapter 1B of the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina State Bar.
- 2. My resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered. It is not the result of coercion or duress. I am fully aware of the implication of submitting my resignation.
- 3. I am aware that there is presently pending an investigation regarding allegations that I have been guilty of misconduct by misappropriating funds entrusted to me as the Executor of the estate of Edward F. Swann Jr. for my own use. I acknowledge that I misappropriated funds. I have made full restitution to the Estate of all funds misappropriated. I also understand that the allegations include falsification of estate accountings under oath to the Clerk of Court.
- 4. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the investigations is predicated are true.
- 5. My resignation is being submitted because I know that if charges were predicated upon the misconduct under investigation, I could not successfully defend against them.
- 6. This Affidavit and all statements herein are propounded solely for the purpose of this professional disciplinary proceeding and any future professional licensure reinstatement proceedings.

Respectfully submitted, this the ______ day of June, 2004.

Todd A. Cline, Attorney At Law

Sworn to and subscribed before me

This the $\frac{1}{2}$, of June, 2004

Notary Public

My Commission expires: 3/27/2007

