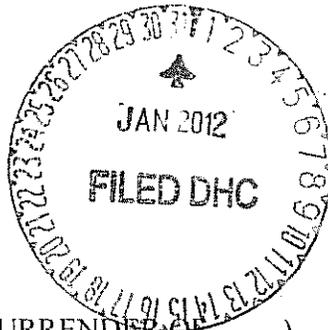


WAKE COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA



BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
12 BCS 1

IN RE: TENDER OF SURRENDER OF )  
LICENSE OF )  
WILLIS H. HARPER, JR. )

ORDER OF DISBARMENT

THIS MATTER was heard by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0117(a) of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules upon the affidavit of surrender of license executed by Willis H. Harper, Jr. and filed in the offices of the State Bar on January 25, 2012.

Based on the affidavit, the Council finds that Willis H. Harper, Jr. misappropriated in excess of \$175,000.00 in entrusted funds belonging to his clients and/or third parties and converted those funds to his own use. This conduct constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(b)(2), in that Harper violated Rule 1.15-2(j) and Rule 8.4(c) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

WHEREFORE, upon motion made and duly seconded, the Council enters the following Order:

1. The tender of surrender of the license of Willis H. Harper, Jr. is hereby accepted.
2. Willis H. Harper, Jr. is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina.
3. Willis H. Harper, Jr. shall comply with the provisions of 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0124 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 § .0124 of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules.
4. On November 16, 2011, the Council of the North Carolina State Bar ordered Harper's license to practice law suspended for failure to comply with mandatory membership and IOLTA certification requirements. The order was effective December 30, 2011 and the period within which Harper shall have completed the wind-down of his law practice ends on January 29, 2012. Therefore, the wind-down period provided for in N.C.A.C. 1B § .0117(e) of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules shall not apply.
5. The costs of this action are taxed against Willis H. Harper, Jr.

Done and ordered this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

  
James R. Fox, President  
The North Carolina State Bar

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY



BEFORE THE COUNCIL  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
12 BCS 1

AFFIDAVIT TENDERING THE SURRENDER OF THE LAW LICENSE OF  
WILLIS H. HARPER, JR.

Willis H. Harper, Jr., 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 Section .0117 of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules, 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Section .0117.
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 affirm that I have obtained the advice and counsel of an attorney before submitting this affidavit.
4. I am aware that there is pending an investigation regarding allegations that I have misappropriated in excess of \$175,000.00 in entrusted funds belonging to my clients and/or third parties and converted those funds to my own use.
5. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the investigation is predicated are true.
6. 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.
7. I fully understand that the hearing by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar with regard to the acceptance of my Tender of Surrender of my license to practice law will occur at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the North Carolina State Bar on Friday, January 27, 2012, at the Raleigh Marriott City Center in Raleigh, North Carolina. I hereby waive any claim, argument, or assertion that I have not received proper or timely notice of the hearing before the Council on Friday, January 27, 2012 and waive any other defect in notice. I further waive any and all right or privilege to appear before the Council at that hearing.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

Willis H. Harper, Jr.  
Willis H. Harper, Jr.

I, Donna J. Cole, Notary Public of the County of Columbus, State of North Carolina, certify that Willis H. Harper, Jr. 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.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

Donna J. Cole  
Notary Public My Commission Expires: 9-28-2013