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NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
00G 1073

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR)	
Petitioner)	
)	
v.)	ORDER OF RECIPROCAL
)	DISCIPLINE PROCEEDING
)	
BRADLEY WATKINS BUTLER, ATTORNEY)	
Respondent)	

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chair of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar by 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, §§ .0105(a)(12) and .0116(a) of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules and based upon the record in this matter, the undersigned finds as follows:

1. By order dated Aug. 21, 2000, the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct issued an order Reprimanding Bradley Watkins Butler for engaging in misconduct.
2. On Nov. 11, 2000, a Notice of Reciprocal Discipline Proceeding was served upon Butler by certified mail by the N.C. State Bar.
3. At Butler's request, he was allowed two extensions of time in which to respond to the Notice and he filed a timely response to the Notice on Jan. 17, 2001.
4. In Butler's response, he requested the N.C. State Bar not to impose reciprocal discipline, on the grounds that 1) he had been sufficiently sanctioned by the Arkansas Supreme Court, 2) the discipline and resulting media scrutiny in Arkansas caused him to lose his job and family, 3) none of the incidents which were the basis of the Arkansas discipline occurred in North Carolina, 4) he has never been disciplined in North Carolina, and 5) he is attempting to make a fresh start in a new position in Greensboro, NC.
5. The reciprocal discipline rule, 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0116(a), provides that North Carolina shall impose reciprocal discipline upon receipt of an order of discipline from a sister state, unless the respondent attorney establishes that 1) he or she was denied due process in the original, disciplining state, or 2) the proof of misconduct is so suspect that it should not be accepted, or 3) imposition of the same

discipline would result in grave injustice or 4) the misconduct warrants substantially different discipline in North Carolina.

6. Upon reviewing Butler's response and the order of discipline of the Arkansas Supreme Court, the Grievance Committee concluded that Butler failed to establish that any of the exceptions in § .0116(a) exist and therefore found that the identical discipline should be imposed in North Carolina.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS the Chair of the Grievance Committee makes the following CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

1. The North Carolina State Bar has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and over the person of the respondent, Bradley Watkins Butler.

2. The procedure for imposition of reciprocal discipline pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0116(a) of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules has been complied with.

3. The order of the Colorado Supreme Court found that Butler became sexually involved with a woman who was a victim of criminal conduct and whom he met as a result of his duties as a prosecuting attorney in Benton County, Arkansas. The order also found that Butler also became involved with another woman, Stephanie Roberts, who was facing various criminal charges in Benton County. Although Butler denied that he was sexually involved with Roberts, it was established that Butler made late night telephone calls to Roberts, intervened on her behalf with prosecuting authorities in another county to prevent her arrest on additional criminal charge and intervened on her behalf with probation officials. This conduct violated Rule 8.4(d) of the Revised Rules North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct and justifies the imposition of reciprocal discipline in this state.

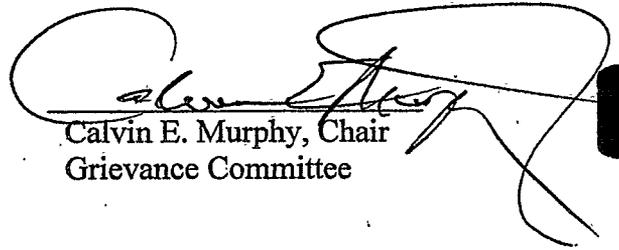
4. The Reprimand imposed by the Colorado Supreme Court should be imposed on the Respondent's right to practice law in the state of North Carolina.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Respondent, Bradley Watkins Butler is hereby reprimanded in North Carolina.

2. Respondent is hereby taxed with the costs of this proceeding as assessed by the Secretary.

This the 26 day of May, 2001.



Calvin E. Murphy, Chair
Grievance Committee