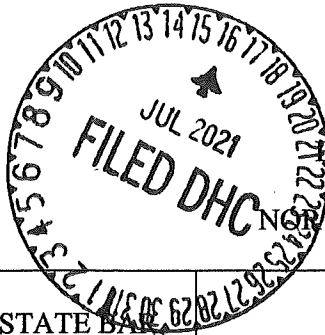


WAKE COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA



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

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
Petitioner  
v.  
ROYDERA D. HACKWORTH, Attorney,  
Respondent

ORDER OF DISBARMENT

THIS MATTER came on to be heard and being heard by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0121(a) of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules upon the Affidavit tendering the surrender of law license ("Affidavit") executed by Roydera D. Hackworth ("Hackworth" or "Respondent") on July 9, 2021 and filed in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar on July 12, 2021.

Based upon the Affidavit, the Council finds that after the effective date of her suspension by the State Bar in August 2012, Hackworth continued to engage in the unauthorized practice of law, forged the name of Omowunmi Odedere to immigration petitions filed with the Department of Homeland Security, and held herself out to clients as being able to practice law without disclosing that she had been suspended by the State Bar. Hackworth also has entered into a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office and agreed to plead guilty in federal court to one count of filing a fraudulent naturalization application and notice of representation, a crime in violation of 18 U.S.C.A. § 1546(a). This criminal act reflects adversely on Hackworth honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in violation of Rule 8.4(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct ("Rules"), and show that Hackworth engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation that reflects adversely on Hackworth's fitness as a lawyer in violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Rules. The Council further finds that Hackworth's misconduct constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-28(b)(2).

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

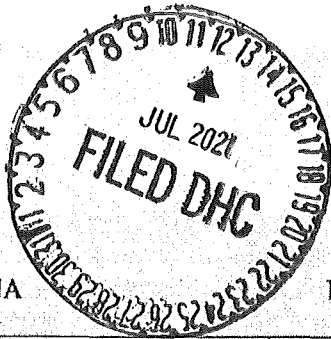
1. The surrender of the license of Roydera D. Hackworth is hereby accepted.
2. Roydera D. Hackworth is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina effective upon entry of this Order.
3. Hackworth shall comply with the provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B §.0128 and shall surrender her law license and permanent membership card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar along with the affidavit required by 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0128(d).
4. The administrative fees and costs of this action are taxed against Hackworth.

Done and Ordered this 16 day of July, 2021.



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Barbara R. Christy, President  
North Carolina State Bar



WAKE COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA

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

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,

Petitioner

v.

ROYDERA D. HACKWORTH, Attorney,

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT TENDERING THE  
SURRENDER  
OF THE LAW LICENSE  
OF ROYDERA HACKWORTH

Roydera D. Hackworth, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

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 .0121(a) of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules.

2. My resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered, and is not the result of coercion or duress. I am fully aware of the implications of submitting my resignation.

3. I am aware that there is a pending investigation against me by the State Bar regarding allegations that after the effective date of my suspension by the State Bar in August 2012, I continued to engage in the unauthorized practice of law, forged the name of Omowunmi Odedere to immigration petitions filed with the Department of Homeland Security, and held myself out as being able to practice law to clients without disclosing that I had been suspended by the State Bar. I have entered into a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office and agreed to plead guilty in federal court to one count of filing a fraudulent naturalization application and notice of representation, a crime in violation of 18 U.S.C.A. § 1546(a).

4. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the State Bar's 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.

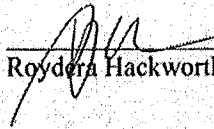
6. I understand that the hearing by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar with regard to the acceptance of the surrender of my license to practice law will occur at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the North Carolina State Bar on Friday, July 16, 2021, 8:30 a.m., at its Quarterly Meeting in Asheville, North Carolina.

Hackworth Surrender Affidavit  
21 BCS \_\_\_\_\_

7. I hereby waive any further notice of the hearing before the Council on my affidavit of surrender. I waive any claim, argument, or assertion that I have not received proper or timely notice of the hearing before the Council on my affidavit of surrender or any other defect in notice. I further waive any and all right or privilege to appear before the Council at that hearing.

8. I affirm that I have had a full opportunity to seek the advice and counsel of an attorney in filing my Affidavit of Surrender and in waiving any rights set forth herein.

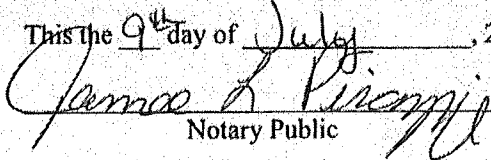
Respectfully submitted, this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roydera Hackworth

I, Jamee L Pirozzi, Notary Public of the County of Mobile, State of Alabama, certify that Roydera D. Hackworth 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

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

My Commission Expires: 10-01-2023

