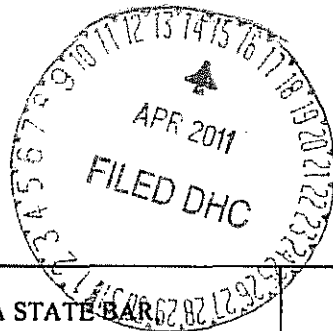


NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY



BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING  
COMMISSION OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
10 DHC 38

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

Petitioner

v.

TONYA L. FORD, Attorney,

Respondent

ORDER  
OF  
DISBARMENT

THIS MATTER coming before the undersigned Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission pursuant to N.C. Admin. Code title 27, Rule 1B.0117(d) upon an affidavit of surrender of license executed by Tonya L. Ford ("Ford") dated April 14, 2011 and filed in the offices of the North Carolina State Bar on April 14, 2011.

Based upon the pleadings and the record, the undersigned makes the following:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. 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.
2. Defendant was licensed to practice law in North Carolina on August 21, 1999.
3. During all periods relevant hereto, Defendant was engaged in the practice of law in North Carolina.
4. Defendant has indicated her consent to disbarment by filing an affidavit of surrender with the Disciplinary Hearing Commission. The affidavit meets all requirements set forth in N.C. Admin. Code title 27, Rule 1B.0117(a)(1) through (4), and (d).

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact the undersigned makes the following:

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW


1. N. C. Admin. Code title 27, Rule 1B.0108 provides that the Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission has the power to enter orders disbarring members by consent.
2. Defendant's affidavit meets all requirements set forth in N.C. Admin. Code title 27, Rule 1B.0117 (a) (1) through (4), and (d), and the facts on which the affidavit is predicated warrant Defendant's disbarment.
3. Defendant has admitted the material facts upon which in the State Bar's complaint is predicated are true and the misconduct alleged in the complaint has been established. The State Bar's complaint is incorporated by reference herein.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the undersigned Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission enters the following:

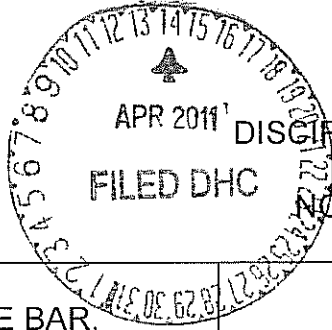
ORDER

1. The surrender of the license of Tonya L. Ford is hereby accepted.
2. Tonya L. Ford is **DISBARRED** from the practice of law in North Carolina effective upon the entry of this order with the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar.
3. Tonya L. Ford shall comply with the provisions of N.C. Admin. Code title 27, Rule 1B.0124 of the State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules.
4. The costs of this action are taxed against the Defendant.

Done and Ordered this 15 day of April, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon B. Alexander, Chair  
Disciplinary Hearing Commission

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WAKE COUNTY



BEFORE THE  
DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMISSION  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR  
10 DHC 38

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,  
Plaintiff

v.

AFFIDAVIT OF SURRENDER

TONYA L. FORD, Attorney,  
Defendant

TONYA L. FORD, 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 State Bar Discipline & Disability Rule 27 NCAC 1B §.0117.

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 complaint by the State Bar regarding allegations that I misappropriated moneys from my attorney trust account that had been entrusted to me in a fiduciary capacity that I utilized for my own benefit without authorization from the beneficial owners of the funds and that I practiced law on one occasion when my law license was suspended.

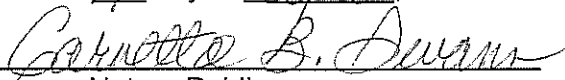
4. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the complaint is predicated are true.

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.

This is the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TONYA L. FORD

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this the 14 day of April, 2011.

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

My commission expires: 2-23-2014

