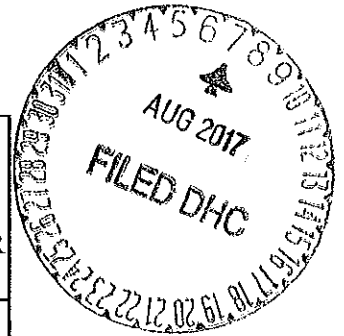


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  WAKE COUNTY	BEFORE THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR 16G1190
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR, Petitioner  v.  GREGORY ROBERT NOONAN, Attorney, Respondent	ORDER OF RECIPROCAL DISCIPLINE



Pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chairperson of the Grievance Committee of the North Carolina State Bar by 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Rules .0105(a)(12) and .0116(b)(4) of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules, and based upon the record in this matter, the undersigned finds as follows:

1. On 14 October 2016, the Supreme Court of New Jersey issued an Order disbaring Gregory Robert Noonan (hereinafter "Noonan") in *In re Gregory R. Noonan*, No. D-142-15, pursuant to Rule 1:20-13(c) of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey, for his conduct in violation of the New Jersey Rules of Professional Conduct.

2. Noonan was licensed in North Carolina via examination in 1985.

3. On 24 April 2009, Noonan became an inactive member of the North Carolina State Bar.

4. Pursuant to 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, Rule .0116(b) of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline & Disability Rules, on 6 July 2017, Noonan was personally served with the North Carolina State Bar's Notice of Reciprocal Discipline Proceeding ("Notice"). The State Bar's Notice cited the Order of disbarment in *Noonan*.

5. The Order issued by the Supreme Court of New Jersey in *Noonan* was predicated on the following facts:

a. On 7 April 2014, in *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Gregory Noonan*, CR 130-14, Noonan pled guilty to two counts of possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute within 8,000 feet of a school zone, one count of criminal use of a communications facility, and one count of dealing in unlawful proceeds; and

b. On 12 January 2015, in *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Gregory Noonan*, CR 5415-14, Noonan pled guilty to one count of forgery and one count of

theft by deception.

6. The Supreme Court of New Jersey found that Noonan's conduct violated the following New Jersey Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.15(a) (misappropriation of client trust funds) and Rule 8.4(b) (commission of a criminal act that reflects adversely on an attorney's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer).

7. The State Bar's Notice directed Noonan to inform the Grievance Committee within 30 days of service of any reason why imposition of the identical discipline by the State Bar would be unwarranted. The Notice further advised that if no response was received within 30 days, the Chairperson of the Grievance Committee would sign an order imposing reciprocal discipline.

8. Noonan initially submitted a response to the Notice, on or about 6 July 2017, in which he admitted the accuracy of the information on his plea to several charges in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and asserted that imposition of reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed in New Jersey was unwarranted for reasons of jurisdiction and fairness.

9. Subsequently, on or about 22 July 2017, Noonan consented to the imposition of reciprocal discipline and requested that reciprocal discipline be imposed immediately.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS, the Chairperson 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 Gregory Robert Noonan.

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

3. The crimes of which Defendant was convicted are criminal offenses showing professional unfitness as defined in 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0103(17).

4. The conduct found by the Supreme Court of New Jersey constitutes conduct in violation of Rules 1.15-2 and 8.4(b) of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct and justifies the imposition of reciprocal discipline in this state.

5. The equivalent discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey should be imposed on Noonan's record in the State of North Carolina. The equivalent discipline in North Carolina to that imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey is disbarment.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Gregory Robert Noonan is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in North Carolina, effective as of the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date this order is served upon him.

2. Noonan shall surrender his law license and membership card to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar no later than 60 days following service of this order upon him.

3. Noonan shall comply with all provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0124.

4. In accordance with the policy adopted 23 July 2010 by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar regarding the taxing of administrative fees and investigative costs to any attorney issued discipline by the Grievance Committee, an administrative fee in the amount of \$350.00 is hereby taxed to Noonan.

This the 2 day of August, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DeWitt F. McCarley", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

DeWitt F. McCarley, Chair  
Grievance Committee