

NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
98G 066(II)

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR)	
Petitioner)	
v.)	ORDER OF RECIPROCAL
)	DISCIPLINE
HILDA BURNETT-BAKER, 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 makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. By order dated July 14, 1997, the Supreme Court of New Jersey issued an order suspending Respondent, Hilda Burnett-Baker, from the practice of law in New Jersey for a period of three months. The order found that Respondent also had prior discipline in the State of New Jersey.
2. On Jan. 31, 1998, the undersigned Chair of the N.C. State Bar Grievance Committee issued a Notice of Reciprocal Discipline to Respondent.
3. The Respondent was served with the Notice of Reciprocal Discipline Proceeding by certified mail on Feb. 21, 1998.
4. On March 23, 1998, the Respondent filed a Response to the Notice of Reciprocal Discipline.

5. This matter was considered by the Grievance Committee of the N.C. State Bar at its meeting on July 16, 1998.

6. The Respondent failed to demonstrate that imposition of the same discipline would result in grave injustice and failed to demonstrate other grounds justifying disposition of this matter other than by an order of reciprocal discipline as provided by 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0116(b).

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, Hilda Burnett-Baker.

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

3. The order of the Supreme Court of New Jersey found that the Respondent neglected a client's case which constitutes conduct in violation of former Rule 6(b)(3), failed to communicate with the client, which constitutes a violation of former Rule 6(b)(1) and falsely told the client that a lawsuit had been filed, which is conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in violation of former Rule 1.2(c) of the North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct and which justifies the imposition of reciprocal discipline in this state.

4. The order suspending Respondent's license to practice law which was imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey 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 is hereby suspended from the practice of law in North Carolina, effective 30 days from service of this order upon the Respondent.

2. Respondent shall forthwith surrender her license certificate and membership card to the Secretary of the N.C. State Bar.

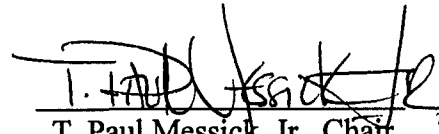
3. Respondent is hereby taxed with the costs of this proceeding as assessed by the Secretary.

4. Respondent shall not resume the practice of law in North Carolina until she has submitted proof to the Secretary of the North Carolina State Bar that she has complied with all provisions of the order of discipline entered by the Supreme Court of New Jersey

and has complied with the provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1 Subchapter B, § .0125(b) of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disbarment Rules.

5. Respondent shall comply with the wind down provisions of 27 N.C. Admin. Code Chapter 1, Subchapter B, § .0124 of the N.C. State Bar Discipline & Disbarment Rules.

This the 22nd day of July, 1998.


T. Paul Messick, Jr., Chair
Grievance Committee