

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR
15G1122

WAKE COUNTY

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR,

Plaintiff

v.

CHRISTOPHER J. SEUFERT, Attorney,

Defendant

ORDER OF
RECIPROCAL DISCIPLINE

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 1B §§ .0105(a)(12) and .0116(b) of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules, and based upon the record in this matter, the undersigned finds as follows:

1. Respondent, Christopher J. Seufert, was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar on 5 April 1996 and is, and was at all times referred to herein, an attorney at law licensed to practice in North Carolina, subject to the rules, regulations and Rules of Professional Conduct of the North Carolina State Bar and the laws of the State of North Carolina.

2. By order dated 30 September 2015, the Professional Conduct Committee of the New Hampshire Supreme Court issued an order reprimanding Christopher J. Seufert. As a basis for its order, the Court determined by clear and convincing evidence that Seufert had engaged in professional misconduct warranting a reprimand. The Committee concluded that Seufert:

- (a) Failed to competently represent his clients' interests in their bankruptcy case by failing to: (i) review his notes to accurately prepare the Chapter 7 petition and schedules; (ii) review closely his clients' proposed submission to the bankruptcy trustee in response to the trustee's request for more information; (iii) follow up with his clients to provide missing information requested by the bankruptcy trustee; and (iv) review the local rules so he could properly oppose the trustee's motion for summary judgment on behalf of his clients; and
- (b) Failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in advancing his clients' interests in their bankruptcy case by failing to: (i) review his notes to accurately prepare the Chapter 7 petition and schedules; (ii) review closely his clients' proposed submission to the bankruptcy trustee in response to the trustee's request for more information; (iii) follow up with his clients to provide missing information requested by the bankruptcy trustee; and (iv) review the local rules so he could properly oppose the trustee's motion for summary judgment on behalf of his clients.

3. On 9 November 2015, the North Carolina State Bar served Seufert by certified mail with a Notice of Reciprocal Discipline. The Notice advised Seufert that the State Bar was considering imposing identical discipline based upon the New Hampshire Supreme Court's reprimand.

4. On 12 November 2015, the North Carolina State Bar served Seufert by certified mail with a Letter of Notice alleging professional misconduct.

5. On 13 November 2015, Seufert responded to the State Bar's mailings and did not object to the imposition of reciprocal discipline.

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 the proceeding and over the person of the Respondent, Christopher J. Seufert.

2. The North Carolina State Bar has complied with the procedure for imposition of reciprocal discipline set forth in 27 N.C.A.C. 1B § .0116 of the North Carolina State Bar Discipline and Disability Rules.

3. The conduct found by the Professional Conduct Committee of the New Hampshire Supreme Court constitutes conduct in violation of Rules 1.1, 1.3, and 8.4(a) of the North Carolina State Bar Rules of Professional Conduct and justifies the imposition of reciprocal discipline in this State.

4. The reprimand imposed by the Supreme Court of New Hampshire should be imposed on Respondent in the State of North Carolina.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Christopher J. Seufert, is hereby REPRIMANDED in North Carolina.

2. In accordance with the policy adopted July 23, 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, and in accordance with 27 N.C. Admin. Code 1B § .0105(a)(15), an administrative fee in the amount of \$350.00 is hereby taxed to Seufert.

This the 8th day of February, 2016.



Michael L. Robinson, Chair
Grievance Committee