

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SUPREME COURT

ORDER

LD-2005-0008, In the Matter of James B. Hobbs

On September 13, 2007, the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) filed a petition seeking the disbarment of the respondent, Attorney James B. Hobbs. The court issued an order requiring that the petition for disbarment be sent to the respondent and requiring the respondent to file an answer to the petition. On October 17, 2007, the respondent filed an answer to the petition, agreeing that he should be disbarred.

In the petition for disbarment, the PCC alleged that the respondent had been convicted of seven felony charges of theft by misapplication of property, two felony charges of forgery, one felony charge of perjury and one misdemeanor charge of forgery. The PCC alleged that the respondent's convictions stemmed from a course of conduct that began in 2001, when the respondent, in his capacity as administrator of an estate, misappropriated \$274,519.52 of estate funds. The PCC also alleged that the respondent forged a number of documents including correspondence, affidavits, and deeds, and submitted fraudulent accounts to the Rockingham County Probate Court.

The crimes committed by the respondent constitute "serious crimes" for purposes of Rule 37(9), and the sole issue before the court is the extent of final discipline to be imposed. Based on the serious nature of the respondent's conviction and Attorney Hobbs' concession that he should be disbarred, the court concludes that disbarment is the appropriate sanction in this case.

THEREFORE, the court orders that James B. Hobbs be disbarred from the practice of law in New Hampshire. Attorney Hobbs is hereby assessed all expenses incurred by the Professional Conduct Committee in the investigation and prosecution of this matter.

Broderick, C.J., and Dalianis, Duggan, Galway and Hicks, JJ., concurred.

DATE: November 2, 2007

ATTEST:


Eileen Fox, Clerk

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Distribution:

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File