

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SUPREME COURT

ORDER

LD-2003-0006, In the Matter of Patricia J. McGrath

On September 3, 2003 the Committee on Professional Conduct (PCC) filed a petition for reciprocal discipline of Attorney Patricia J. McGrath. See Rule 37(10). The committee's petition stated that it had been informed that, on November 26, 2002, the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County (Massachusetts) suspended Attorney McGrath for three years and found her to be in contempt. The Supreme Judicial Court suspended Attorney McGrath for, among other things: (1) accepting retainers from clients and failing to do the work for which the clients paid her; and (2) lying to the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers during its investigation of complaints.

In accordance with Rule 37(10)(b), this court attempted without success to serve Attorney McGrath by certified mail, return receipt requested on two occasions. On January 30, 2004, the court ordered that the petition be served in person or by abode service. On April 26, 2004, the court received confirmation that abode service was effected upon Attorney McGrath on March 3, 2004. Although the court's order required Attorney McGrath to respond to the petition within thirty days of her receipt of it, she did not do so.

Having reviewed the PCC's petition, the court concludes that further proceedings are unnecessary for the disposition of this case. See Rule 37(10)(d)-(e). We conclude that the misconduct found by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court justifies suspending Attorney McGrath from the practice of law in New Hampshire for a period of three years. See *id.*

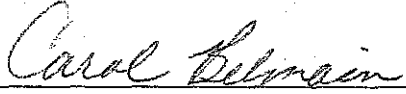
THEREFORE, Patricia J. McGrath is hereby suspended from the practice of law in New Hampshire for a period of three years. She is ordered to notify the attorney discipline authority of any other jurisdictions in which she is licensed to practice law of the issuance of the court's order. She is further ordered to disclose to the court within ten (10) days of her receipt of this order whether she represents any New Hampshire clients in any pending matters, including litigated matters and administrative proceedings, and whether she maintains any trust accounts in New Hampshire.

Patricia J. McGrath is hereby assessed all expenses incurred by the PCC in the investigation and prosecution of this matter.

Broderick, Nadeau, Dalianis, Duggan, and Galway, JJ., concurred.

DATE: May 14, 2004

ATTEST:


Carol Belmain, Deputy Clerk

Distribution:

Margaret H. Nelson, Chair

✓ James L. DeHart, Esquire

Patricia A. McGrath, Esquire

NH Bar Association

Debbie Bills, Supreme Court

Irene Dalbec, Supreme Court

File