

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SUPREME COURT**

**ORDER**

**LD-2016-0003, In the Matter of Hyacinth M. Bellerose, Esquire**

On February 24, 2016, the Attorney Discipline Office (ADO) filed a certified copy of a plea agreement, dated September 22, 2015, in which Attorney Hyacinth M. Bellerose agreed to plead guilty in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, a felony, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349. The ADO filed a certified copy of the docket sheet in the criminal case against Attorney Bellerose, which reflects that Attorney Bellerose entered a plea of guilty on October 29, 2015. The ADO also filed a certified copy of an Order of Immediate Temporary Suspension of Attorney Bellerose issued by the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County (Massachusetts). The ADO recommends that the court immediately suspend Attorney Bellerose from the practice of law in New Hampshire.

Supreme Court Rule 37(9)(i) provides:

Whenever an attorney is indicted or bound over for any felony, the court shall take such actions as it deems necessary, including but not limited to the suspension of the attorney.

This court has stated that it may impose an interim suspension pending the resolution of criminal charges in accordance with this provision when it is deemed necessary: (1) for the protection of the public and; (2) for the preservation of the integrity of the legal profession. See Rule 37(16)(f); Reiner's Case, 152 N.H.163, 168 (2005).

Based on the information submitted by the ADO, the court finds that Attorney Bellerose's immediate suspension from the practice of law is necessary to protect the public and to preserve the integrity of the legal profession. See Rule 37(16)(d) and (f). Accordingly, it is hereby ordered:

1. Attorney Hyacinth M. Bellerose is immediately suspended from the practice of law in New Hampshire on a temporary basis pending further order of this court.
2. Attorney Bellerose is enjoined from transferring, assigning, hypothecating, or in any manner disposing of or conveying any assets of clients, whether real, personal, beneficial, or mixed.

3. A copy of this order and of the Attorney Discipline Office's filing shall be served on Attorney Bellerose by first class mail and certified mail, return receipt requested. A copy of this order shall also be sent to the ADO by first class mail.

Dalianis, C.J., and Hicks, Conboy, and Lynn, JJ., concurred.

DATE: March 11, 2016

ATTEST:



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Eileen Fox, Clerk

Distribution:

Attorney Discipline Office

Mark D. Smith, Esquire

Hyacinth M. Bellerose, Esquire

Janet F. DeVito, Esquire

File