

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SUPREME COURT

ORDER

**LD-2006-0010, In the Matter of Christine Marie-Victoria
Blackadar**

On January 8, 2007, the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) filed a petition seeking the disbarment of the respondent, Attorney Christine Marie-Victoria Blackadar. The court issued an order requiring that the petition be sent to the respondent by first class and certified mail at the latest address provided by the respondent to the New Hampshire Bar Association. The order notified the respondent that she was required to file an answer to the petition within 30 days of service or the allegations of the petition would be deemed to be admitted. The petition sent to the respondent by certified mail was signed for on February 15, 2007. The petition sent to the respondent by first class mail was not returned.

The respondent has not filed an answer to the PCC's petition. Rule 37(16)(c) provides that if a respondent attorney fails to answer a petition filed by the Professional Conduct Committee, the allegations of the petition "shall be deemed to be admitted and no further hearing shall be required." In this case, the petition alleged violations of the following Rules of Professional Conduct:

- (1) Rule 1.15(b) and 1.16(d). These rules requires a lawyer to promptly deliver to a client any funds that the client is entitled to receive and to surrender papers and property to which a client is entitled, including any unearned retainer, when representation is terminated. The PCC alleged that the respondent violated this rule by failing to promptly return a retainer when discharged by a client.
- (2) Rule 1.15(a)(1). This rule requires a lawyer to maintain client funds in a trust account maintained in accordance with Supreme Court rules. The PCC alleged that the respondent violated this rule by withdrawing unearned client funds from a trust account.
- (3) Rule 8.4(a). This rule makes it professional misconduct to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct.

In accordance with Rule 37(16)(c), the committee's allegations are deemed admitted.

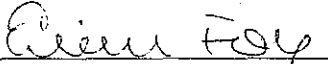
Based on the serious nature of the violations and on Attorney Blackadar's failure to respond to this court's order, the court concludes that disbarment is the appropriate sanction in this case.

THEREFORE, the court orders that Christine Marie-Victoria Blackadar be disbarred from the practice of law in New Hampshire. Attorney Blackadar 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: May 14, 2007

ATTEST:


Eileen Fox, Clerk

Distribution:

Professional Conduct Committee

✓ James L. DeHart, Esquire

Landy B. McCafferty, Esquire

Christine M. Blackadar, Esquire

Daniel C. Proctor, Esquire

NH Bar Association

Debbie Bills, Supreme Court

File