

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF  
JACOB LEON PARROTT

VSB DOCKET NO. 21-000-120967

**RULE TO SHOW CAUSE  
AND  
ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

It appearing to the Disciplinary Board that Respondent Jacob Leon Parrott (“Respondent”) was licensed to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia on November 15, 2012;

It further appearing that Jacob Leon Parrott has been disbarred from the practice of law in the State of South Carolina by Opinion No. 27989 filed August 12, 2020 in the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina, Appellate Case No. 2020-000892; and

It further appearing that such disciplinary action has become final.

It is ORDERED, pursuant to the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-24, that the license of Respondent to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia be, and the same is, hereby suspended effective November 12, 2020.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent appear before the Disciplinary Board on December 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via videoconference utilizing the Microsoft Teams application to show cause why the same discipline that was imposed in the other jurisdiction should not be imposed by the Disciplinary Board. Pursuant to Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-24.C of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Respondent has 14 days from the date of this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Notice of Hearing to file a written response with the Clerk of the Disciplinary System, which shall be confined to argument and exhibits supporting one or more of the grounds for dismissal or imposition of a lesser discipline specified in paragraph 13-24.C. Failure to file a written response within 14 days may result in the

Disciplinary Board's refusal to consider during the hearing in this matter any evidence or argument supporting the existence of one or more of the grounds specified in Paragraph 13-24.C.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent shall forthwith give notice, by certified mail, of the suspension of his license to practice law in Virginia to all clients for whom he is currently handling matters and to all opposing attorneys and the presiding judges in pending litigation. The Respondent shall also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in his care in conformity with the wishes of his clients. The Respondent shall give such notice within fourteen (14) days of the effective date of the suspension order, and make such arrangements as are required herein within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the suspension order. The Respondent shall also furnish proof to the Bar within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the suspension order that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements for the disposition of matters made. Issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required herein shall be determined by the Disciplinary Board, which may impose a sanction of revocation or suspension for failure to comply with the requirements of this subparagraph.

It is further ORDERED that a copy of Opinion No. 27989 entered August 12, 2020 in the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina, Appellate Case No. 2020-000892 be attached to this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Notice of Hearing and made a part hereof.

It is further ORDERED that an attested copy of this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Notice of Hearing, with attachments, shall be mailed to Respondent by certified, regular and electronic mail to his address of record with the Virginia State Bar, Law Office of J. Leon Parrott, 360 McKendree Lane, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579, and a copy by electronic

mail to M. Brent Saunders, Senior Assistant Bar Counsel, Virginia State Bar, 1111 East Main Street, Suite 700, Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026.

ENTERED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**Yvonne S. Gibney**

Digitally signed by Yvonne S.  
Gibney  
Date: 2020.11.10 16:16:02 -05'00'

Yvonne S. Gibney

Chair



**A COPY TESTE**

**DaVida M. Davis**

*DaVida M. Davis*

**Clerk of the Disciplinary System  
Virginia State Bar**

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Supreme Court**

In the Matter of Jacob Leon Parrott, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2020-000892

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Opinion No. 27989

Submitted June 19, 2020 – Filed August 12, 2020

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**DISBARRED**

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John S. Nichols, Disciplinary Counsel, and C. Tex Davis,  
Jr., Senior Disciplinary Counsel, both of Columbia, for  
the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Jacob Leon Parrott, of Myrtle Beach, *pro se*.

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**PER CURIAM:** In this attorney disciplinary matter, Respondent and the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) have entered into an Agreement for Discipline by Consent (the Agreement) pursuant to Rule 21, RLDE, Rule 413, SCACR. In the Agreement, Respondent admits misconduct and consents to the imposition of any sanction set forth in Rule 7(b), RLDE, Rule 413, SCACR. We accept the Agreement and disbar Respondent from the practice of law in this state, retroactive to June 5, 2018, the date of his arrest. The facts, as set forth in the Agreement, are as follows.

**Facts**

On June 5, 2018, Respondent was arrested and charged with indecent exposure, in violation of S.C. Code Ann. § 16-15-130, after he was observed exposing his genitals and masturbating. Respondent self-reported the arrest to ODC on June 19, 2018. On December 9, 2019, Respondent entered a plea pursuant to *North*

*Carolina v. Alford*, 400 U.S. 25 (1970), and was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, suspended to twelve months' probation and payment of \$168.75 in court costs.

Respondent's previous disciplinary history includes two matters involving similar behavior. In 1997, Respondent received a four-month suspension citing the equivalent of Rules 8.4(b) (committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on an attorney's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer in other respects) and 8.4(c) (committing a criminal act involving moral turpitude), RPC, Rule 407, SCACR. *In re Parrott*, 325 S.C. 162, 480 S.E.2d 722 (1997). This four-month suspension followed Respondent's entry of an *Alford* plea to a charge of simple assault and battery he received after pulling down a woman's bathing suit while she was sunbathing at Surfside Beach in May 1994. *Id.* at 163, 480 S.E.2d at 723 (noting Respondent tried to pull off another woman's bikini bottom while she was sunbathing at North Myrtle Beach in October 1989, but was not prosecuted for this offense; and Respondent had no prior connection with either woman, covered his face during both incidents, and retreated when the women "put up a struggle").

In 2017, the Court suspended Respondent, then fifty-six years old, for nine months after he was arrested and charged with voyeurism for using a cell phone to take photos up a woman's skirt in a grocery store and failed to inform ODC of his arrest within the required fifteen-day period. *In re Parrott*, 421 S.C. 105, 107, 804 S.E.2d 852, 853 (2017). In its 2017 order, the Court found Respondent's conduct violated Rules 8.3(a) (requiring an attorney to provide notice to ODC in writing within fifteen days of being arrested or charged by way of indictment, information, or complaint with a serious crime), and 8.4(b) (committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on a lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer in other respects), RPC, Rule 407, SCACR. *In re Parrott*, 421 S.C. at 109, 804 S.E.2d at 854.

### Law

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Respondent admits his conduct violated Rule 8.4(b), RPC, Rule 407, SCACR (committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on a lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer in other respects). Respondent further admits his conduct constitutes grounds for discipline under Rule 7(a)(1), RLDE, Rule 407, SCAR (violating or attempting to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct).

**Conclusion**

We find Respondent's misconduct warrants disbarment. Accordingly, we accept the Agreement and disbar Respondent from the practice of law in this state, retroactive to June 5, 2018. Respondent shall pay the costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this matter by ODC and the Commission on Lawyer Conduct within thirty (30) days of the date of this opinion. Within fifteen (15) days of the date of this opinion, Respondent shall file an affidavit with the Clerk of Court showing he has complied with Rule 30, RLDE, Rule 413, SCACR, and shall also surrender his Certificate of Admission to the Practice of Law to the Clerk of Court.

**DISBARRED.**

**BEATTY, C.J., KITTREDGE, HEARN, FEW and JAMES, JJ., concur.**

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**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:**

*Brenda J. Shialy*  
Chief Deputy Clerk, S. C. Supreme Court

**RECEIVED**

**Jun 19 2020**

**SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**S.C. SUPREME COURT**

**BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON LAWYER CONDUCT**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**Jacob Leon Parrott, Lawyer.**

**Matter Number: 18-DE-L-0679**

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**AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT**

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**THIS AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT** is entered into between the Office of the Disciplinary Counsel to the Supreme Court of South Carolina (Disciplinary Counsel) and Jacob Leon Parrott (Lawyer). Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 21 of the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement (RLDE), Rule 413, SCACR, the parties hereto agree that:

1. Lawyer is licensed to practice law in South Carolina and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission on Lawyer Conduct (the Commission) pursuant to the provisions of RLDE.

2. This Agreement relates to a complaint pending against Lawyer before the Commission bearing Case Number 18-DE-L-0679 (the Proceedings) that was made by Self-Report (the Complainant).

3. Lawyer conditionally admits the occurrence of the following specific factual allegations (the Allegations) as alleged by Disciplinary Counsel:

On June 5, 2018, Lawyer was arrested by the Surfside Police Department and charged with Indecent Exposure in violation of S.C. Code Ann. 16-15-0130. Lawyer was observed exposing his genitals and masturbating. Copies of the Arrest Warrant and

Incident Report are attached to this Agreement and made a part of this Agreement. Lawyer self-reported the arrest to Disciplinary Counsel on June 19, 2018. On December 9, 2019, Lawyer entered a plea pursuant to North Carolina v. Alford, 400 U.S. 25 (1970). Lawyer was sentenced to three years in the Department of Corrections, which was suspended with probation for twelve months. In addition, Lawyer paid court fines in the amount of \$168.75. The State of South Carolina did not request that Lawyer be placed on the Sex Offender Registry. A copy of the Sentence Sheet is attached to this Agreement and made a part of this Agreement. Lawyer admits that his conduct in this matter violated Rule 8.4(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 407, SCACR

4. Lawyer conditionally admits that the Allegations constitute grounds for discipline under Rule 7(a)(1), RLDE. Lawyer conditionally admits violating the specific portions of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 407, SCACR, or other rules that govern Lawyer's conduct that are set forth in paragraph 3, above, and any other rules the Commission on Lawyer Conduct or the Supreme Court of South Carolina might find violated by the Allegations.

5. Lawyer consents to the imposition of any sanction as set forth in Rule 7(b), RLDE, as a final disposition of the Proceedings if this Agreement is finally accepted and a sanction is in fact imposed. Lawyer requests that any suspension be made effective retroactive to the date of his arrest for the underlying criminal violation in this matter – June 5, 2018, but understands that if the Court declines to apply the suspension retroactively, the validity or enforceability of this Agreement is not affected. Disciplinary Counsel does not oppose this request. Within thirty days of imposition of discipline,

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Lawyer agrees to pay the costs incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this matter by Disciplinary Counsel and the Commission.

6. Inasmuch as Formal Charges have not been filed by Disciplinary Counsel against Lawyer in connection with the Proceedings, this Agreement shall be submitted to an Investigative Panel of the Commission for its determination as to whether this Agreement should be accepted and, if it so finds, then the Panel must submit this Agreement to the Supreme Court of South Carolina for final approval.

7. Attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference is an affidavit of Lawyer (the Affidavit) as required by Rule 21, RLDE.

8. All admissions and consents made by Lawyer in this Agreement are conditioned upon the final approval and acceptance of this Agreement. If this Agreement is rejected, then this Agreement and the Rule 21 Affidavit shall be deemed withdrawn and shall not thereafter be used for any purpose by or against Lawyer in the Proceedings or any other proceedings; however, this Agreement and the Rule 21 Affidavit may not be withdrawn by Lawyer unless so rejected. This Agreement is not binding on Disciplinary Counsel unless and until it is fully executed by all parties.

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9. If this Agreement is finally accepted in accordance with the provisions of Rule 21, RLDE, then the Proceedings shall be terminated upon imposition of discipline. The parties understand and agree that, if this agreement is finally accepted and a public sanction is imposed by the Court, this agreement and all attachments thereto will become matters of public record.

10. Lawyer is not represented by legal counsel in connection with the Proceedings.

11. Lawyer and Disciplinary Counsel waive any and all rights to oral arguments in connection with this matter.

12. Lawyer's disciplinary history includes January 27, 1997 - Definite 4-Month suspension - 325 S.C. 162, 480 S.E.2d 722 (1997) (Rules 8.4(b), 8.4(c) equivalent rules); December 22, 1997 - Reinstated - Sup. Ct. Order; December 29, 2016 - Interim Suspension, 419 S.C. 1, 795 S.E.2d 457 (2016); September 14, 2017 - Definite Suspension, 9 months, 421 S.C. 105, 804 S.E.2d 852 (2017) (Rules 8.3(a) and 8.4(b)).

13. Attached hereto, but not made a part hereof, may be an affidavit in mitigation which Lawyer request be taken into consideration in determining whether this Agreement should be accepted and/or what would be the appropriate discipline to be imposed in connection with this matter. Disciplinary Counsel has not independently investigated the information contained in the affidavit in mitigation except to extent consistent with the Allegations. Any conflict between the affidavit and this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of this Agreement

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**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have signed and delivered this Agreement as follows. All prior negotiations between Lawyer and Disciplinary Counsel concerning the Proceedings and the matters set forth in this Agreement are merged into this Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire understanding between the parties concerning the matters set forth herein. There have been no promises or inducements made to Lawyer by or on behalf of Disciplinary Counsel related to this Agreement except for those specifically set out herein:

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

As to Disciplinary Counsel:

Kathleen Crater  
Witness

John S. Nichols  
John S. Nichols  
Disciplinary Counsel  
Date: June 4, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Tex Davis Jr.  
Senior Assistant Disciplinary Counsel  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As to Lawyer:

Matthew D. Murphy  
Witness

Jacob Leon Parrott  
Jacob Leon Parrott  
Lawyer  
Date: 5-19-2020

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**SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:**

**As to Disciplinary Counsel:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
**John S. Nichols**  
**Disciplinary Counsel**  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

*/s/ C. Tex Davis, Jr.*  
**C. Tex Davis Jr.**  
**Senior Assistant Disciplinary Counsel**  
Date: 6/4/2020

**As to Lawyer:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jacob Leon Parrott**  
**Lawyer**  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Jun 19 2020

S.C. SUPREME COURT

STATE OF SC )  
COUNTY OF Horry )

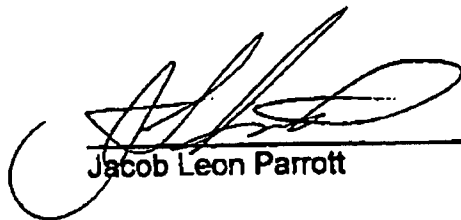
AFFIDAVIT

PERSONALLY appeared before me the undersigned affiant, Jacob Leon Parrott, who, upon first being duly sworn, says that:

1. The Affiant consents to any sanction as set forth in the attached Agreement for Discipline by Consent in connection with case number 18-DE-L-0679 pending before the Commission on Lawyer Conduct as a final disposition of that matter;

2. The consent of the Affiant to any sanction as set forth in Rule 7(b) of RLDE is voluntarily given; and

3. The matters admitted in the attached Agreement and the facts stated in this Affidavit are true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Leon Parrott

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SWORN TO AND SIGNED in my presence

on May 19, 2020

Justin Harding  
Signature of Notary Public for the State of South Carolina

Justin Harding  
Printed Name

My commission expires: 01-28-2030

