

VIRGINIA:

Before the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board

In the Matter of

Paul Granville Watson, IV
Attorney at Law

VSBS Docket No. 19-022-115618

CONSENT TO REVOCATION ORDER

On February 10, 2020, came Paul Granville Watson, IV and presented to the Board an Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation (hereinafter "Affidavit") of his license to practice law in the courts of this Commonwealth. By tendering his Consent to Revocation at a time when allegations of Misconduct are pending, the nature of which are specifically set forth in the attached Affidavit, Respondent acknowledges that that the material facts upon which the allegations of Misconduct are pending are true.

The Board having considered the Affidavit, and Bar Counsel having no objection, the Board accepts his Consent to Revocation.

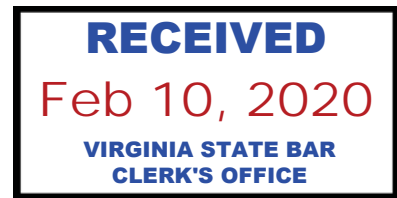
Upon consideration whereof, it is therefore ordered that Paul Granville Watson IV's license to practice law in the courts of this Commonwealth be and the same hereby is revoked, and that the name of Paul Granville Watson, IV be stricken from the Roll of Attorneys of this Commonwealth.

Entered this 10th day of February, 2020

Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board

By: Yvonne S. Gibney Digitally signed by Yvonne S. Gibney
Date: 2020.02.10 10:44:33 -05'00'

Yvonne S. Gibney
Second Vice Chair



VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

IN THE MATTER OF

PAUL GRANVILLE WATSON, IV

VS B Docket No.

19-022-115618

AFFIDAVIT DECLARING CONSENT TO REVOCATION

Paul Granville Watson, IV, after being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. I was licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia on October 11, 1995;

2. I submit this Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-28 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia;

3. My consent to revocation is freely and voluntarily rendered, I am not being subjected to coercion or duress, and I am fully aware of the implications of consenting to the revocation of my license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia;

4. I am aware that I am the subject of a pending Disciplinary Proceeding involving allegations of Misconduct, the specific nature of which is set forth below:

In April 2017, Donna L. Grant ("Ms. Grant") hired me to file a bankruptcy petition on her behalf and paid me an advance fee of \$1,300.00 for that representation. I did not deposit those funds into trust and instead converted those funds for my own use. I never filed a bankruptcy petition on behalf of Ms. Grant or otherwise diligently pursued her matter. I also failed to respond to Ms. Grant's numerous attempts to contact me over the course of the representation which ended in or about the spring of 2019 after Ms. Grant filed a bar complaint against me.

5. I acknowledge that the material facts upon which the allegations of Misconduct are predicated are true and constitute violations of the following provisions of the Rules of

Professional Conduct:

RULE 1.3 Diligence

(a) A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

...

RULE 1.4 Communication

(a) A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

...

RULE 1.15 Safekeeping Property

(a) Depositing Funds.

(1) All funds received or held by a lawyer or law firm on behalf of a client or a third party, or held by a lawyer as a fiduciary, other than reimbursement of advances for costs and expenses shall be deposited in one or more identifiable trust accounts; all other property held on behalf of a client should be placed in a safe deposit box or other place of safekeeping as soon as practicable.

...

(b) Specific Duties. A lawyer shall:

...

(5) not disburse funds or use property of a client or third party without their consent or convert funds or property of a client or third party, except as directed by a tribunal;

and

6. I submit this Affidavit and consent to the revocation of my license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia because I know that if the disciplinary proceedings based on the said alleged Misconduct were brought or prosecuted to a conclusion, I could not successfully defend them.

AND FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT

Given this 6th day of February, 2020.


Paul Granville Watson, IV

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
CITY/COUNTY OF Northampton, to wit:

The foregoing Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation was subscribed and sworn to before me by Paul Granville Watson, IV, on this 6 day of February, 2020.


Notary Public

My Commission expires: June 30, 2023.

