

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1951 Disciplinary Docket No. 3
Petitioner :
v. : No. 65 DB 2013
JOAN ORIE MELVIN, : Attorney Registration No. 35751
Respondent : (Allegheny County)

ORDER

PER CURIAM:

AND NOW, this 15th day of January, 2015, there having been filed with this Court by Joan Orié Melvin her verified Statement of Resignation dated December 9, 2014, stating that she desires to resign from the Bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in accordance with the provisions of Rule 215, Pa.R.D.E., it is

ORDERED that the resignation of Joan Orié Melvin is accepted; she is disbarred on consent from the Bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, retroactive to July 12, 2013; and she shall comply with the provisions of Rule 217, Pa.R.D.E. Respondent shall pay costs, if any, to the Disciplinary Board pursuant to Rule 208(g), Pa.R.D.E.

A True Copy Patricia Nicola
As Of 1/15/2015

Attest: 
Chief Clerk
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

**BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

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|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL | : | No. 1951 Disciplinary Docket No. 3 |
| Petitioner | : | |
| | : | No. 65 DB 2013 |
| v. | : | |
| | : | Attorney Registration No. 35751 |
| JOAN ORIE MELVIN | : | |
| Respondent | : | (Allegheny County) |

RESIGNATION BY RESPONDENT

Pursuant to Rule 215
of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1951, Disciplinary Docket
: No. 3 - Supreme Court
Petitioner :
: No. 65 DB 2013 - Disciplinary
vs. : Board
: :
JOAN ORIE MELVIN, : Attorney Registration No. 35751
: :
Respondent : (Allegheny County)

RESIGNATION
UNDER RULE 215, Pa.R.D.E.

Joan Orie Melvin hereby states that she is a member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, who is the subject of investigation in regard to a complaint filed with the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania at the number indicated above and, in conformity with Rule 215 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement, she further states as follows:

1. She is an attorney admitted in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having been admitted to the bar on or about December 16, 1981. Her attorney registration number is 35751.

2. She wishes to resign from the Bar, her resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered, she is not being subjected to coercion or duress, and she is fully aware of the implications of submitting her resignation.

3. She is aware that there is presently pending an investigation into allegations that she has been guilty of misconduct, the

nature and specifics of which have been made known to her, as set forth in a Statement of Facts, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit 1.

4. She acknowledges that the material facts, upon which are predicated the allegations of professional misconduct so lodged against her, are true.

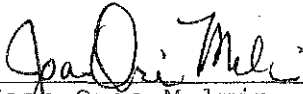
5. She submits her resignation because she knows that she could not successfully defend herself against charges predicated upon the misconduct under investigation.

6. She is fully aware that the submission of this Resignation Statement is irrevocable and that she can only apply for reinstatement to the practice of law pursuant to the provisions of Enforcement Rule 218(b).

7. She has consulted with counsel in regard to submitting her resignation.

In accordance with Rule 215, Pa.R.D.E., this statement is made by the signatory subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Signed this 9th day of December, 2014.



Joan Ori Melvin
Respondent

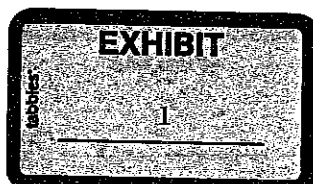
BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1951, Disciplinary Docket
: No. 3 - Supreme Court
Petitioner :
: No. 65 DB 2013 - Disciplinary
vs. : Board
: Attorney Registration No. 35751
JOAN ORIE MELVIN, :
Respondent : (Allegheny County)

STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. Petitioner, whose principal office is located at Pennsylvania Judicial Center, Suite 2700, 601 Commonwealth Avenue, P.O. Box 62485, Harrisburg, PA 17106-2485, is invested, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement (hereafter "Pa.R.D.E."), with the power and the duty to investigate all matters involving alleged misconduct of an attorney admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to prosecute all disciplinary proceedings brought in accordance with the various provisions of the aforesaid Rules.

2. Respondent, Joan Orié Melvin, was born in 1956. She was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on December 16, 1981. Respondent's attorney registration mailing address is 1411 Grandview Avenue, Apt. 410, Pittsburgh, PA 15211.



Respondent is subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

3. Pursuant to a Joint Petition to Temporarily Suspend an Attorney, by Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania dated June 12, 2013, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Rule 214, Pa.R.D.E.

4. On February 21, 2013, Respondent was found guilty by a jury at CP-02-CR-0009885-2012 of three counts of Diversion of Services, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §3926(b); one count of Conspiracy to Engage in Diversion of Services, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §903(a)(1); one count of Misapplying Entrusted Government Property, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4113(a); and, one count of Conspiracy to Commit the Crime of Tampering With or Fabricating Evidence, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §903(a).

5. The charges of Diversion of Services and Conspiracy to Commit Diversion of Services were felonies of the third degree, punishable by a maximum incarceration of seven years.

6. The charges of Misapplying Entrusted Government Property and Conspiracy to Commit the Crime of Tampering With Physical Evidence were misdemeanors of the second degree, punishable by a maximum incarceration of two years.

7. On May 7, 2013, and as amended on May 14, 2013, Respondent was sentenced to, *inter alia*, an aggregate sentence of intermediate punishment (house arrest) for a maximum of three years, with conditions, to be followed by two years of probation.

8. As part of the sentence, Respondent was removed from the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and was to write apology letters to her staff and to every Common Pleas Court and intermediate appellate court judge in Pennsylvania, as well as to the Justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

9. Respondent's convictions constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 203(b)(1), Pa.R.D.E.

10. Respondent's appeal of her conviction and sentence to the Superior Court was concluded by affirmance thereof.

11. Respondent has discontinued her Petition for Allocatur to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and the matter is final.