

ENTRY ORDER

VERMONT SUPREME COURT
FILED IN CLERK'S OFFICE

SUPREME COURT DOCKET NO. 2015-217

NOV 24 2015

NOVMEBER TERM, 2015

In re Christopher Sullivan, Esq.	}	Original Jurisdiction
	}	
	}	
	}	Professional Responsibility Board
	}	
	}	PRB NO. 2013-221


In the above-entitled cause, the Clerk will enter:

The Court has received from the Professional Responsibility Board an Affidavit of Resignation filed by respondent Christopher Sullivan, as well a supporting Statement of Additional Facts filed by disciplinary counsel, as required by A.O. 9, Rule 19.

Based on these filings, it is hereby ordered as follows:

- (1) Respondent Christopher Sullivan is disbarred from the practice of law on consent. The date of disbarment shall be deemed to have commenced on June 12, 2015, the date that respondent was placed on interim suspension.
- (2) Respondent shall comply with all of the provisions of A.O. 9, Rule 23.

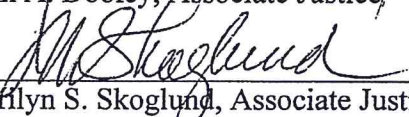
BY THE COURT:




 Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice



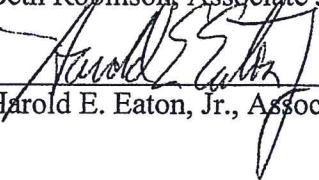
 John A. Dooley, Associate Justice



 Marilyn S. Skoglund, Associate Justice



 Beth Robinson, Associate Justice



 Harold E. Eaton, Jr., Associate Justice

STATE OF VERMONT
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM

In Re: Christopher P. Sullivan, Esq.
PRB File No. 2013-221

Affidavit of Resignation

NOW COMES Christopher Sullivan and, pursuant to Rule 19(A) of Administrative Order 9, hereby deposes and states as follows:

1. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Vermont. My law license is currently on interim suspension status.
2. I have decided to resign my license to practice law in the State of Vermont.
3. My resignation is being rendered freely and voluntarily. I am not being subjected to coercion or duress.
4. I have reviewed Administrative Order 9, and I am fully aware of the implications of submitting my resignation.
5. I am aware that Disciplinary Counsel is presently investigating allegations that I have engaged in conduct that violates the Vermont Rules of Professional Conduct. Specifically, Disciplinary Counsel is investigating allegations that I have been convicted of two felonies, in violation of Rule 8.4(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
6. I acknowledge that I have been convicted of two felonies. Those felonies are driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor with death resulting, and leaving the scene of a fatal motor vehicle accident.
7. I am submitting my resignation because I know that if Disciplinary Counsel pursued charges of misconduct predicated on my being convicted of two felonies, I could not

successfully defend against those charges.

8. I am aware that, under A.O. 9, Rule 19(B), Disciplinary Counsel will file a Statement of Additional Facts relating to the conduct under investigation.
9. Based on all of the foregoing, I freely and voluntarily resign my license to practice law in the State of Vermont.

DATED at Rutland, Vermont, this 22nd day of October, 2015.



Christopher P. Sullivan

STATE OF VERMONT
COUNTY OF RUTLAND, SS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22 day of Oct, 2015



Notary Public
My Commission Expires 2/10/2019

STATE OF VERMONT
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM

In Re: Christopher P. Sullivan, Esq.
PRB File No. 2013-221

Statement of Additional Facts

NOW COMES Disciplinary Counsel, and pursuant to Administrative Order 9, Rule 19(B), hereby submits the following facts, in addition to the facts set forth in the Respondent's Affidavit of Resignation:

1. Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in Vermont in 1987.
2. Since June 12, 2015, Respondent's law license has been on interim suspension status, per order of the Vermont Supreme Court, based upon his conviction of two felonies which constitute serious crimes. **Exhibit A.**
3. On the evening of April 10, 2013, Respondent drank six or seven alcoholic beverages and then operated a motor vehicle on the streets of Rutland. Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, paras. 15-16, attached to the Attorney General's Information, **Exhibit B.**
4. As he was driving down Strongs Avenue, Respondent struck and killed a 71-year-old pedestrian named Mary Jane Outslay, who had just dined with a friend at the Palms Restaurant and was returning to her car. Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, paras. 4-6, and 17, **Exhibit B.**
5. Respondent left the scene of the accident without stopping his car; he did not stop to provide his contact information or to render assistance, as required by law. Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, paras. 13 and 17, **Exhibit B.**
6. Shortly after the accident, Respondent called his law partner from the parking lot of Hannaford's. His partner informed him that an ambulance had arrived at the accident scene,

and a person had been taken to the hospital. Later that evening, Respondent learned that the accident had resulted in a fatality. Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, paras. 18 and 22, **Exhibit B**.

7. Respondent went home that night and parked his vehicle, which had noticeable damage. According to the Sergeant's Affidavit, the "vehicle had moderate damage to the front center portion of the hood and significant damage to the windshield, including a large hole on the passenger side. The interior rear view mirror was hanging on its side as a result of the damage to the windshield and there was broken glass throughout the passenger compartment." Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, para. 26, **Exhibit B**.

8. The next day, Respondent retained a lawyer and made arrangements to turn himself in to the Rutland Police Department. He turned himself in at 1:00 pm on April 11, 2013, seventeen hours after the crash. Sergeant Abdelnour's Affidavit, para. 14, **Exhibit B**.

9. On May 2, 2013, Respondent was charged with two felonies: driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor with death resulting [23 V.S.A. §§ 1201(a)(2) and 1210(f)(1)], and leaving the scene of a fatal motor vehicle crash without stopping. [23 V.S.A. §§ 1128(a) and (c).] Each charge carries a potential sentence of up to fifteen years' imprisonment. Attorney General's Information, **Exhibit B**.

10. On March 19, 2015, after a three day jury trial, the jury found Respondent guilty of the two felonies identified above. **Exhibit C**.

11. On May 19, 2015, the Rutland Superior Court entered judgment against the Respondent on the two felonies, thereby convicting him of those felonies. **Exhibit C**.

12. Respondent's felony convictions establish that he engaged in serious crimes, defined as illegal conduct involving any felony under Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(b).

13. Under A.O. 9, Rule 17(E), a certificate of conviction of a crime shall be

conclusive evidence that an attorney has committed the crime. **Exhibit C** is certified by the Vermont Superior Court Clerk and constitutes a certificate of conviction.

14. On July 30, 2015, the Rutland Superior Court sentenced Respondent to serve four (4) to ten (10) years in prison on each felony conviction, with the sentences to run concurrently.

Exhibit D.

DATED at Burlington, Vermont, this 28th day of October, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth DeBernardi
Office of Disciplinary Counsel
32 Cherry Street, Suite 213
Burlington, VT 05401

Office
of
Disciplinary
Counsel

Professional
Responsibility
Program

ENTRY ORDER

VERMONT SUPREME COURT
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JUNE TERM, 2015

In re Christopher Sullivan, Esq.

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} Professional Responsibility Board
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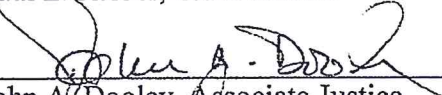
Respondent Christopher Sullivan, Esq. is an attorney admitted to the practice of law in Vermont. Respondent and disciplinary counsel for the Professional Responsibility Board have stipulated to respondent's interim suspension based upon his conviction of two felonies which constitute "serious crimes" under Administrative Order 9, Rule 17.C. Accordingly, pursuant to Administrative Order 9, Rule 17.D(1), the Court orders as follows:

- (1) Respondent's license to practice law is immediately suspended on an interim basis pending the final disposition of disciplinary proceedings in PRB No. 2013-221.
- (2) Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Administrative Order 9, Rule 23.
- (3) Attorney Paul S. Kulig, Esq. is appointed as trustee to protect the interests of respondent's former clients.
- (4) The interim suspension shall take effect immediately on the issuance of this order.

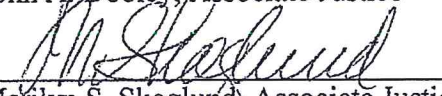
BY THE COURT:



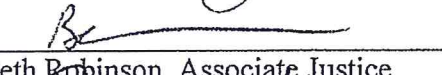
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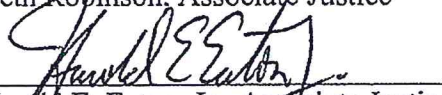
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