

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,	:	No. 1144 Disciplinary Docket No. 3
Petitioner	:	
	:	No. 55 DB 2006
v.	:	
	:	Attorney Registration No. 44250
CAROL S. STEVER,	:	
Respondent	:	(Montgomery County)

ORDER

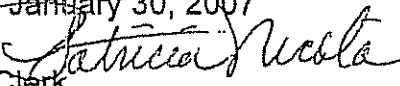
PER CURIAM:

AND NOW, this 30th day of January, 2007, upon consideration of the Recommendation of the Three-Member Panel of the Disciplinary Board dated November 30, 2006, the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent is hereby granted pursuant to Rule 215(g), Pa.R.D.E., and it is

ORDERED that Carol S. Stever is suspended on consent from the Bar of this Commonwealth for a period of two and one-half years retroactive to July 24, 2006, and she shall comply with all the provisions of Rule 217, Pa.R.D.E.

A True Copy Patricia Nicola

As of January 30, 2007

Attest: 

Chief Clerk

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA


OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL : No. 1144 Disciplinary Docket No. 3
Petitioner :
v. : No. 55 DB 2006
CAROL S. STEVER : Attorney Registration No. 44250
Respondent : (Montgomery County)

RECOMMENDATION OF THREE-MEMBER PANEL
OF THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Three-Member Panel of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, consisting of Board Members Robert C. Saidis, Mark S. Baer and Donald E. Wright, Jr., has reviewed the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent filed in the above-captioned matter on October 19, 2006.

The Panel approves the Joint Petition consenting to a two and one-half year suspension retroactive to July 24, 2006, and recommends to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania that the attached Petition be Granted.

The Panel further recommends that any necessary expenses incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this matter shall be paid by the respondent-attorney as a condition to the grant of the Petition.


Robert C. Saidis, Panel Chair
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Date: November 30, 2006

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1144 Disciplinary Docket
Petitioner : No. 3- Supreme Court
 :
 : No. 55 DB 2006
v. :
 : Attorney Reg. No. 44250
 :
CAROL S. STEVER, :
Respondent : (Montgomery County)

JOINT PETITION IN SUPPORT OF DISCIPLINE
ON CONSENT UNDER RULE 215(D), PA.R.D.E.

Petitioner, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, by Paul J. Killion, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, and Alan J. Davis, Disciplinary Counsel, and Respondent, Carol S. Stever, by Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, file this Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent under Rule 215(d), Pa.R.D.E., and respectfully represent that:

1. Petitioner, whose principal office is situated at Suite 1400, 200 North Third Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101, is invested, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement (hereinafter "Pa.R.D.E."), with the power and duty to investigate all matters involving alleged misconduct of any attorney admitted

FILED

OCT 19 2006

Office of the Secretary
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to prosecute all disciplinary proceedings brought in accordance with the various provisions of said Rules.

2. Respondent, Carol S. Stever, is a formerly admitted attorney, originally having been admitted to the practice of law on or about November 8, 1985. Respondent's address is 88 Wexford Court, North Wales, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, 19454.

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

4. By Order dated June 23, 2006, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania placed Respondent on temporary suspension as a result of her criminal conviction, more fully described below.

SPECIFIC FACTUAL AND LEGAL ADMISSIONS

5. On or about June 7, 2005, the Souderton Police Department filed a Criminal Complaint against Respondent, accompanied by an Affidavit of Probable Cause, charging Respondent with various crimes relating to Respondent's issuance of bad checks.

6. A true and correct copy of the Criminal Complaint with Affidavit of Probable Cause is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A."

7. On or about September 23, 2005, the District Attorney's Office of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, filed

Bills of Information charging Respondent with multiple counts of theft by deception, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §3922 and with multiple counts of bad checks, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4105.

8. A true and correct copy of the Bills of Information is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "B."

9. On or about November 28, 2005, Respondent pleaded guilty to one count of the offense of bad checks, in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4105, and all other charges were *nol prossed*.

10. The count to which Respondent entered a plea of guilty alleged that on March 25, 2005, Respondent issued a check in the amount of \$16,164.79, payable to Uninvest Bank and drawn on the Bank of America, when Respondent knew that said check would not be honored by the drawee.

11. On or about February 7, 2006, Respondent was sentenced to five years probation, and further sentenced to make restitution in the amount of \$16,164.79.

12. A true and correct copy of the "Trial/Plea/Sentence" is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "C."

13. Respondent was convicted of a first degree misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment of not more than five years.

14. Respondent was convicted of a "serious crime" as defined by Pa.R.D.E. 214(i).

15. Respondent's conviction constitutes a *per se* ground for discipline pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 203(b)(1).

SPECIFIC JOINT RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE

15. Petitioner and Respondent jointly recommend that the appropriate discipline for Respondent's criminal conviction is a suspension from the practice of law for a period of two and one-half years, retroactive to July 24, 2006, the effective date of the Order placing her on temporary suspension.

16. Respondent hereby consents to that discipline being imposed upon her by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Attached to this petition is Respondent's executed affidavit required by Rule 215, Pa.R.D.E., stating that she consents to the recommended discipline and which includes the mandatory acknowledgments required by Rule 215(d)(1) through (4), Pa.R.D.E.

17. In support of Petitioner and Respondent's joint recommendation, it is respectfully submitted that there are several mitigating circumstances:

- a) Respondent has no disciplinary history;
- b) Respondent cooperated with the District Attorney's Office by entering into a plea agreement in which

she pleaded guilty to one count of the offense of bad checks, a misdemeanor in violation of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4105;

c) Respondent has cooperated with Petitioner by her consent to receive a suspension of two and one-half years, retroactive to July 24, 2006, the effective date of the Order placing her on temporary suspension;

d) Respondent has provided to Petitioner a psychiatric report, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "D." Respondent believes there is a substantial probability that Respondent would be able to establish at a disciplinary hearing that there is a causal connection between Respondent's psychiatric history and her misconduct, and therefore that she would be entitled to mitigation under *Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Braun*, 553 A.2d 894 (Pa. 1989); and

e) With Respondent's plea of guilty to only one count of a misdemeanor for bad checks, and the more serious charges of theft by deception being *nol prossed*, the instant matter can be distinguished from other cases where convictions for mail fraud have resulted in four-year suspensions such as *In re Anonymous No. 20 DB 1981*, 35 D.& C. 3d 202 (1985); *In re Anonymous No. 23 DB 1987*, 50 D.& C. 3d 402 (1988); and *In re Anonymous No. 17 DB 1987*, 50 D.& C. 3d 281 (1988).

18. In Pennsylvania, there is no *per se* discipline for a particular type of misconduct, but instead each case is

reviewed individually as established in the case of *Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Lucarini*, 417 A.2d 186 (1983).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner and Respondent respectfully request that, pursuant to Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement 215(e) and 215(g), a three-member panel of the Disciplinary Board review and approve the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent and file a recommendation with the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania that Respondent be suspended for a period of two and one-half years, retroactive to July 24, 2006, the effective date of the Order placing her on temporary suspension, and that Respondent be ordered to pay all necessary expenses incurred in the investigation and prosecution in the matter as a condition to the grant of the Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

PAUL J. KILLION,
Chief Disciplinary Counsel

10/5/06
Date

BY:

Alan J. Davis
Alan J. Davis,
Disciplinary Counsel
Attorney Registration No. 12332
Disciplinary Counsel
Suite 170
820 Adams Road
Trooper, PA 19403

10/6/06
Date

BY:

Samuel C. Stretton
Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent
Attorney Registration No. 18491
301 South High Street
P.O. Box 3231
West Chester, PA 19381-3231

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY



POLICE
 CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
CR04293-05

Magisterial District Number 38-1-17
 District Justice Name Hon KENNETH DEATELHAUSER
 Address 121 EAST CHESTNUT STREET
SOUDERTON PA 18964
 Telephone () 2157235900

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
 VS.

DEFENDANT.

NAME and ADDRESS
CAROL S. STEVER
154 LARCHWOOD COURT
P.O. BOX 26276
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426

Docket No CR-0000175-05
 Date Filed 06 / 07 / 05
 OTN H 978 339-5

Defendant's Race/Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> Native American <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	Defendant's Sex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Defendant's D O B <u>07/23/1951</u>	Defendant's Social Security Number <u>162-42-4694</u>	Defendant's SID (State Identification Number)
Defendant's A K A (also known as)	Defendant's Vehicle Information Plate Number	State Registration Sticker (MMYY)	Defendant's Driver's License Number State <u>PA 15322086</u>	
Complaint/Incident Number	LiveScan Tracking Number	Complaint/Incident Number if other Participants	UCR/NIBRS Code <u>0619/23A</u>	

Office of the Attorney for the Commonwealth Approved Disapproved because _____
(The attorney for the Commonwealth may require that the complaint arrest warrant affidavit or both be approved by the attorney for the Commonwealth prior to filing Pa.R Crim P 507)

(Name of Attorney for Commonwealth-Please Print or Type) _____ (Signature of Attorney for Commonwealth) _____ (Date) _____
I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106
(Name of Affiant-Please Print or Type) (Officer Badge Number/ID)
of SOUDERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 0462600
(Identify Department or Agency Represented and Political Subdivision) (Police Agency or ORI Number) (Originating Agency Case Number (OCA))

do hereby state (check appropriate box).

1 I accuse the above named defendant who lives at the address set forth above
 I accuse the defendant whose name is unknown to me but who is described as _____

I accuse the the defendant whose name and popular designation or nickname is unknown to me and whom I have therefore designated as John Doe

with violating the penal laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at _____
(Place Political Subdivision)
14 MAIN STREET, SOUDERTON

in MONTGOMERY County on or about Between August 21, 2004 and Present

Participants were (if there were participants, place their names here, repeating the name of the above defendant)
STEVER, CAROL S.

True and correct Copy
 Certified from the record
 This 24 Day of Feb. A.D. 2006
Jacob B. Markley
 Clerk of Courts

Defendant's Name	CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number	



POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CRO 4293 - 05

2 The acts committed by the accused were
(Set forth a summary of the facts sufficient to advise the defendant of the nature of the offense charged. A citation to the statute allegedly violated, without more, is not sufficient. In a summary case, you must cite the specific section and subsection of the statute or ordinance allegedly violated.)

THEFT BY DECEPTION, SECTION 3922(a) (1) (FELONY 3): The Defendant intentionally obtained or withheld property of another by deception. The Defendant intentionally created or reinforced a false impression as to law, value, intention or other state of mind.

THEFT OF SERVICES, SECTION 3926(a) (1) (FELONY 3): The Defendant intentionally obtained services for herself, which she knew were available for compensation, by deception to avoid payment for the services.

BAD CHECKS, SECTION 4105(a) (1) (MISDEMEANOR 1)
 The Defendant did issue or pass checks for the payment of money, knowing that the checks would not be honored by the drawee.

all of which were against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and contrary to the Act of Assembly, or in violation of

1	<u>3922</u> (Section)	<u>(a) (1)</u> (Subsection)	of the	<u>Title 18</u> (PA Statute)	<u>4</u> (counts)
2	<u>3926</u> (Section)	<u>(a) (1)</u> (Subsection)	of the	<u>Title 18</u> (PA Statute)	<u>1</u> (counts)
3	<u>4105</u> (Section)	<u>(a) (1)</u> (Subsection)	of the	<u>Title 18</u> (PA Statute)	<u>5</u> (counts)
4	_____	_____	of the	_____	_____
	(Section)	(Subsection)		(PA Statute)	(counts)

3 I ask that a warrant or a summons be issued and that the defendant be required to answer the charges I have made. (In order for a warrant of arrest to issue, the attached affidavit of probable cause must be completed and sworn to before the issuing authority.)

4 I verify that the facts set forth in this complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge or information and belief. This verification is made subject to the penalties of Section 4904 of the Crimes Code (18 PA C C 4904) relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

June 7, 2005

Joseph P. Kelly, Jr.
 (Signature of Affiant)

AND NOW, on this date 6/7/05 I certify that the complaint has been properly completed and verified. An affidavit of probable cause must be completed in order for a warrant to issue.

38-1-17
 (Magisterial District)

[Signature]
 True and Issuing Authority

SEAL

Certified from the record
 This 24th Day of Feb. A.D. 2005
[Signature]

Defendant's Name	CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number	



POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CRO 4293 - 05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On Wednesday, September 15, 2004, David Schecter, who is a security officer with Uninvest National Bank, advised me that Carol Stever has checking account number 2111 60075 1 with the bank and he is investigating a bad check that was drawn on the account. Uninvest National Bank headquarters is located at 14 Main Street, Souderton.

On Saturday, August 21, 2004, Ms Stever wrote check number 1226 drawn on her said account to Sloane Honda for the amount of \$21,441.08 of United States currency.

On Tuesday, August 31, 2004, Stever deposited a check, drawn from Citizen's Bank, for the amount of \$25,000.00 into her said account. The check was credited to the account on Wednesday, September 1, 2004. After the check was deposited into her account, Stever's account balance, on paper, was inflated to \$25,133.08.

On Friday, September 3, 2004, Uninvest National Bank paid out on the written check because Stever's account showed that there were enough funds to cover the check.

On Wednesday, September 8, 2004, Uninvest National Bank was notified by Citizen's Bank that there were Non-Sufficient funds in their customer's account to cover the \$25,000.00 check. The reason the information regarding the Non-Sufficient check was delayed due to the Labor Day holiday weekend. Therefore, Uninvest National Bank suffered a loss of \$20,459.89 because Citizen's Bank did not honor the check that was deposited by Stever.

On September 14, 2004 and September 17, 2004, Stever received letters from Uninvest National Bank advising her of the loss.

Mr. Schecter advised me that he spoke to Stever and she advised that she wrote the check to pay for a vehicle she purchased for her daughter. Subsequently,
(Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June 2005
6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010

True and correct copy
Certified from the record
This 24 Day of Feb A.D. 2006
[Signature]
Clerk of Court

Defendant's Name **CAROL S. STEVER**
 Docket Number



**POLICE
 CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
 CR04293-05**

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Mr Schecter wrote a letter to Ms. Stever advising her that the check was not honored because there were Non-Sufficient funds in her account when the vehicle was purchased.

On Tuesday, November 23, 2004 at approximately 11:55 a.m., I responded to Sloane Honda and spoke to Jeff Lish, the General Sales Manager and Lou Shanian, the salesman who sold the vehicle to Stever. Mr. Shanian advised that Stever gave the company the check on August 21, 2004 and told them that there were not enough funds in the account to cover the check. They took the check in order to hold the vehicle for Stever and told her that she needed to give them a certified check. Mr. Shanian advised that after the check was received it was difficult to get in touch with Stever and he believes that the company sent her a letter. At some point Stever advised that she had a certified check, but it had been stolen. Later she called back and advised them that there were enough funds in the checking account to cover the check.

On Wednesday, December 15, 2004 at approximately 9:15 a.m., I met with Stever and she agreed to speak to me about the investigation. She advised that she does not remember being told by the salesman at Sloane Honda that she would need a certified check. She does remember that when she presented the check there were not sufficient funds in the account and she told the salesman that she would advise him when the funds were available. A few days after she deposited the Citizen's Bank check she accessed her account information and it indicated that the funds were available. Subsequently, she contacted Sloane Honda and told them that the funds were available. I showed Stever the Citizen's Bank check and she advised that it is her signature on the back of the check and she did deposit the check. I showed her a copy of the check written to Sloane Honda and she advised that she wrote the check. I also showed her the two certified mail receipts for the letters written to her by Univest National Bank and she advised that it is her signature on the receipts.

On Thursday, March 10, 2005 at 1:45 p.m., I spoke to John McMahon, Esq. and he
 (Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
 (Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 2005

6/7/05 Date K. J. [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010 and correct Copy

SEAL

Certified from the record
 This 24 Day of Feb, A.D. 2005

W. B. Thomas

Defendant's Name	CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number	



POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
CR04293-05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

advised that he is representing Stever. He advised that Stever will not meet with me at 2:00 p.m. as had been scheduled. Mr. McMahon advised that he spoke to Stever and she has told him that she will have the money within two weeks. He requested a two week extension.

On Friday, April 1, 2005, I received a check number 94 drawn on Stever's, Bank of America/Fleet National Bank account number 95068 91083 made payable to Uninvest for the amount of \$16,164.79. I then responded to Uninvest National Bank and gave the check to David Schecter who advised that he will contact me when he learns if there are enough funds in the account to cover the check.

On Tuesday, April 5, 2005 at 3:50 p.m., I spoke to Mr. Schecter and he advised that there are not enough funds in Stever's previously mentioned checking account to cover the check.

On Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at 8:18 a.m., I spoke to Mr. Schecter and he advised said check was re-deposited and it has been returned marked "Refer to Maker".

On Thursday, April 14, 2005, I appeared before District Justice Kenneth E Deatelhauser and he authorized a Search warrant for records associated to Stever's, Bank of America checking account number 9506891083.

On Monday, May 9, 2005, I received Stever's bank records for the Bank of America checking account. The records indicate that the account was opened with \$50.00 on February 3, 2005. According to the account records on February 10, 2005 check number 92 was written for \$40.00 made payable to John Longendorfer and the funds were withdrawn from the account. On February 28, 2005, \$10.00 was withdrawn from the account.

The following checks were written and they were not honored because there were Non-Sufficient funds in the account:

(Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 05

6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010 and correct Copy **SEAL**

Certified from the record
This 24 Day of Feb...A.D. 2006
James B. Markey

Defendant's Name	CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number	



POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CRO4293-05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

1. Check number 94 dated 03-25-05 made payable to Uninvest for the amount of \$16,164.79.
2. Check number 95 dated 03-26-05 made payable to John E. Longendorfer III for the amount of \$96,000.00.
3. Check number 97 dated 03-25-05 made payable to Shore Title Agency for the amount of \$11,000,000.00 (eleven million dollars)
4. Check number 98 dated 03-25-05 made payable to Perkiomen Woods/Wentworth Group for the amount of \$3,425.57.
5. Check number 99 dated 03-25-05 made payable to Robert Reibstein, Esq. for the amount of \$23,000.00.
6. Check number 100 dated 03-25-05 made payable to Progressive Insurance for the amount of \$1,289.00.

The records indicate that the account has a negative balance of \$90.00 due to overdraft charges.

On Thursday, May 19, 2005 at 11:40 a.m., I contacted John McMahon's office and learned that Stever wrote a bad check to Mr. McMahon. On March 25, 2005, Stever wrote check number 109 drawn on her Sovereign Bank account number 2021074250. After the check was deposited it was returned to Mr. McMahon's office marked ~~Account closed.~~ The check was payment for legal services that were performed by Mr. McMahon.

During the course of the investigation I received information that Stever is an attorney within the Commonwealth. At 2:20 p.m., I accessed a website issued to the The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. I entered a search for attorneys with the last name Stever. I found that Stever is listed

(Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 05
6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010

SEAL

True and correct Copy
Certified from the record
This 24 Day of Feb, A.D. 2005

Defendant's Name CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number



POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CRO 4293-05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

and her identification number is 44250. The website has her listed as being on inactive status.

At 2:38 p.m., I contacted the Disciplinary Board and asked about Stever's status. I was advised that on January 4, 2005 the Pa. Supreme Court issued an Order declaring her inactive because she wrote a check to pay for her license for the year 2005 and the check was later returned because there were Non-Sufficient Funds in the checking account.

On Tuesday, May 24, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. I appeared before District Justice Deatelhauser and he authorized a Search warrant for records associated to Stever's, Sovereign Bank checking account number 202107 4250.

On Thursday, May 26, 2005, I received the records that were requested from Sovereign Bank. The following is a summary of the activity on the account.

- 01-31-05 the account was opened with a \$40.00 deposit.
- 02-10-05 check number 101 was written to Nationwide Insurance for \$490 00. The check was not honored because there were Non-Sufficient funds in the account. It is noted on the face of the check that the purpose of the check is for Longendorfer insurance. The account was assessed a \$30.00 insufficient funds fee.
- 02-11-05 check number 102 was written to John Longendorfer for \$30.00. The check was honored.
- 02-23-05 check number 103 was written to Weichert Realty for \$30,000.00. The check was not honored because there were Non-Sufficient funds in the account. It is noted on the face of the check that the purpose of the check is for deposit 092001160. The account was assessed a \$30.00 insufficient funds fee.

(Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 05

6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010 SEAL

True and correct copy
Certified from the record
This 24 Day of Feb. A.D. 2006
[Signature]

Defendant's Name	CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number	



**POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

CPO 4293 - 05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

5. 02-25-05 check number 105 was written to Pamela C. Gillie(sp) for \$3,490.00 the check was not honored because there were Non-Sufficient funds in the account. It is noted on the face of the check that the purpose of the check is for title insurance. The account was assessed a \$30.00 insufficient fund fee.

6. On 03-29-05 Sovereign Bank closed the account with a -\$110.00 balance.

On Friday, May 27, 2005 at 10:35 a.m., I spoke to Serene Thompson of the Wentworth Group. Ms. Thompson is the oversees Stever's home owners association account. She advised that check number 98 was not honored. She advised that the company received check number 94 dated May 21, 2005 for \$4,000.00 drawn on Stever's Commerce Bank account number 36 764951 4. The company posted the check on May 21, 2005. She checked the home owner's association account and found that the bank posted the check on May 26, 2005, so it is too soon to tell if the check cleared.

On Monday, June 6, 2005 at 11:28 a.m., I spoke to Serene Thompson and she advised that she checked the home owner's association account and found that check number 94 was not honored by Commerce Bank on June 01, 2005.

Based on the facts set forth, I request that an Arrest Warrant be issued for Carol S. Stever, the Defendant, for committing the crimes of Theft by Deception, Theft of Services, and Bad Checks as a result of passing the following checks:

1. Check number 94 drawn on Bank of America account number 95068 91083 for the amount of \$16,164.79 made payable to Univest National Bank.

2. Check number 98 drawn on Bank of America account number 95068 91083 for the amount of \$3,425.57 made payable to Perkiomen Woods/Wentworth Group.

3. Check number 99 drawn on Bank of America account number 95068 91083 for the amount of \$3,425.57 made payable to Perkiomen Woods/Wentworth Group.
(Continued)

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 05

6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January 2010 **SEAL**

Certified from the record
This 24 Day of Feb A.D. 2006

[Signature]

Defendant's Name CAROL S. STEVER
Docket Number



POLICE
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CR04293-05

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

amount of \$23,000.00 made payable to Robert Reibstein, Esq..

4 Check number 109 drawn on Sovereign Bank account number 202107 4250 for the amount of \$2,000.00 made payable to John McMahon.

5. Check number 94 drawn on Commerce Bank account number 36 764951 4 for the amount of \$4,000.00 made payable to Wentworth Group/Perkiomen Woods.

I, DETECTIVE JOSEPH P. KELLY JR. 106, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FORGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Joseph P. Kelly Jr.
(Signature of Affiant)

Sworn to me and subscribed before me this 7 day of June, 05
6/7/05 Date [Signature], District Justice

My commission expires first Monday of January, 2010 [Signature] SEAL

Certified from the record
This 21 Day of Feb. A.D. 2006

[Signature]
Clerk of Court

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA
CRIMINAL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA : CRIMINAL DOCKET
: NUMBER: CR-04293-05

vs.

CAROL S. STEVER

THEFT BY DECEPTION
4 COUNTS

BILL OF INFORMATION

The DISTRICT ATTORNEY of Montgomery County by this Information charges that,
CAROL S. STEVER

on (or about) AUGUST 21, 2004 – JUNE 7 _____, 20 05 _____, in the said County,

FIRST COUNT: Did intentionally obtain or withhold property of another by deception by creating or reinforcing a false impression, including false impressions as to law, value, intention or other state of mind

SECOND COUNT: Did intentionally obtain or withhold property of another by deception by preventing another from acquiring information which would affect his/her judgment of a transaction

THIRD COUNT: Did intentionally obtain or withhold property of another by deception by failing to correct a false impression which the deceiver previously created or reinforced, or which the deceiver knew to be influencing another to whom he/she stands in a fiduciary or confidential relationship

to wit US CURRENCY

said property having the value of \$ 48,590 36 and it being the lawful property of
UNIVEST BANK, PERKIOMEN WOODS/WENTWORTH GROUP, ROBERT REIBSTEIN, ESQ
AND/OR JOHN MC MAHON

All of which is against the Act of Assembly and the peace and dignity of the
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

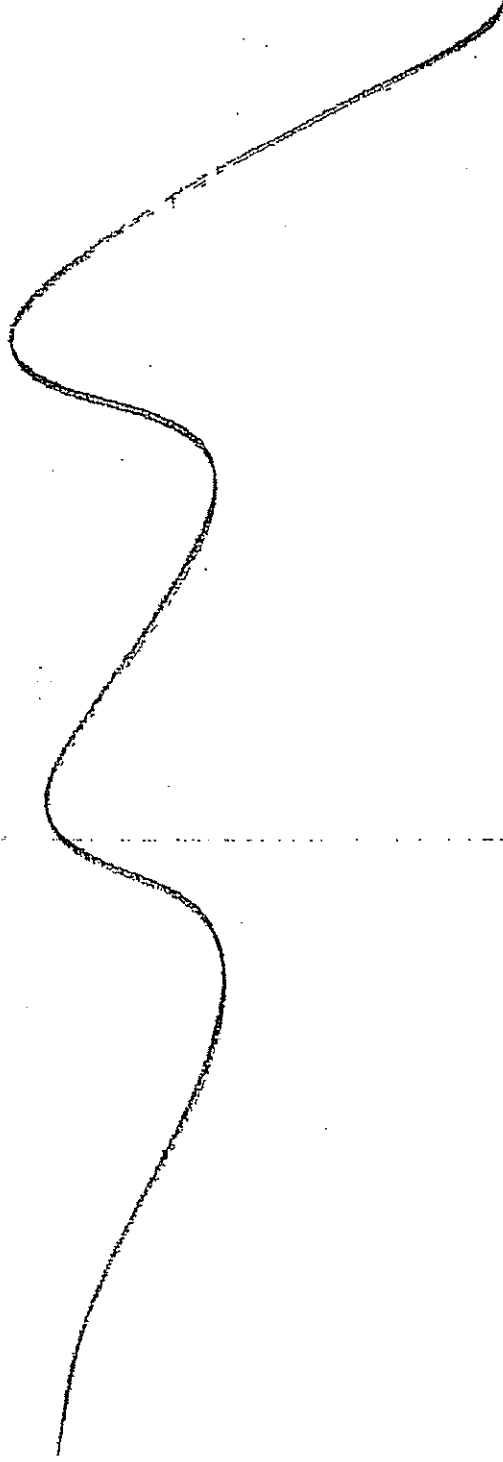
18 Pa.C.S.A. §3922

True and correct Copy
Certified from the record
This 24th Day of Feb. A.D. 2006

James B. Markley
Clerk of Courts

[Signature]
Attorney for the Commonwealth

2005 SEP 23 AM 9:53



**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA	:	CRIMINAL DOCKET
	:	NUMBER: <u>CR-04293.2-05</u>
vs.	:	
CAROL S. STEVER	:	BAD CHECKS
	:	5 COUNTS

BILL OF INFORMATION

The DISTRICT ATTORNEY of Montgomery County by this Information charges that,
CAROL S. STEVER
on (or about) AUGUST 21, 2004 – JUNE 7, 20 05, in the said County,

did unlawfully issue or pass a certain check or similar sight order which was

DATE:	AMT:	PAYABLE TO:	DRAWN ON:
3-25-05	\$16,164 79	UNIVEST BANK	BANK OF AMERICA
3-25-05	\$3,425 57	PERKIOMEN WOODS/WENTWORTH GROUP	BANK OF AMERICA
3-25-05	\$23,000 00	ROBERT REIBSTEIN, ESQ	BANK OF AMERICA
3-25-05	\$2,000 00	JOHN MC MAHON	SOVEREIGN BANK
5-21-05	\$4,000 00	PERKIOMEN WOODS/WENTWORTH GROUP	COMMERCE BANK

the defendant well knowing at the time of such issuing or passing of said check that it would not be honored by the drawee

All of which is against the Act of Assembly and the peace and dignity of the
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

18 Pa.C.S.A. §4105

True and correct Copy
Certified from the record

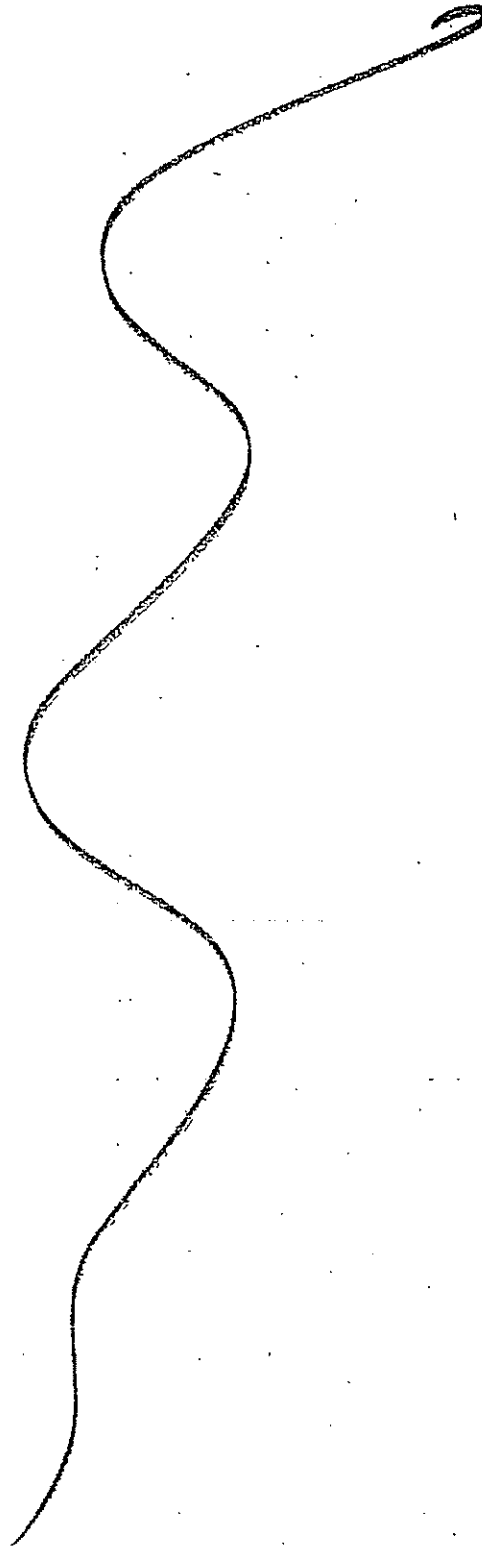
This 21 Day of Feb. A.D. 2006

Jacob B. Marley
Clerk of Courts

Arnet Park
Attorney for the Commonwealth

...SHERY,
PLM

2005 SEP 23 AM 9:53



TRIAL/PLEA/SENTENCE

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

CHARGES AND BILL(S) OF INFORMATION

VS
Carol S. Steiner

4293-05 TBS (405)
1 Tbt of Muncie (8)
2 Bad Checks (505)

	TRIAL	OPEN GUILTY PLEA	SENTENCE
DATE		<u>11-28-05</u>	<u>Feb. 7, 2006</u>
JUDGE		<u>Thomas P. Rogas</u>	<u>Thomas P. Rogas</u>
COURT ROOM		<u>#5</u>	<u>#5</u>
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY		<u>Donald Rosenbluth</u>	<u>Donald Rosenbluth</u>
DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY		<u>Judith M. Gorman</u>	<u>Judith M. Gorman</u>
COURT REPORTER		<u>Susan Louella</u>	<u>Susan Louella</u>
COURT CLERK		<u>P. Chobot</u>	<u>P. Chobot</u>

AND NOW, Nov. 28, 2005

The Court finds that the defendant has knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily entered a plea of guilty with reference to the following Bills of Information and the Court accepts the guilty plea 4293-05 Bad Checks (M)

The Court accepts the terms of the plea agreement and sentence will be imposed in accordance with it.

The motion of the District Attorney to nol pros the following Bill(s) of Information is granted at time of sentencing
4293-05 + . / Costs on Defendant County

The Court sustains a motion for judgment of acquittal as to Bill(s) of Information _____

The Court overrules a motion for judgment of acquittal as to Bill(s) of Information _____

After trial, the Jury/Court finds the defendant
Guilty of the following Bill(s) of Information _____
Not guilty of the following Bill(s) of Information _____

Jury Sworn _____ Jury Returns _____ Trial Days _____

For reasons appearing on the record the Court directs that the defendant forthwith register with the Adult Probation Department for
 PPI Evaluation House Arrest Suitability Assessment Sexually Violent Predator Assessment
 Pre-Sentence Investigation and Report Commencing Supervision R.I.P Assessment

Sentence deferred: Defendant remanded without bail/released on same bail/remanded pending posting of bail in the increased amount of \$ _____, pending sentencing
Special Conditions pending resolution of certain restitution issues

Defendant's PA driver's license Attached to be surrendered by _____

BAC _____
True and correct Affidavit submitted
Certified Return the Record
Disposition was via video, defendant is incarcerated at _____

This 24 Day of Nov A.D. 2005
Jacob M. Marley
BY THE COURT

MJM Clerk of Court
Exhibit C

TRIAL/PLEA/SENTENCE

Bill of Info. No

AND NOW, Feb. 7, 2006

Defendant is sentenced to undergo imprisonment for not less than _____ years nor more than _____ years in such State Correctional Institution as shall be designated by the Deputy Commissioner for Programs, Department of Corrections, and sent to the Correctional Diagnostic and Classification Center at Camp Hill/Muncy for this purpose Commitment to date from _____ Consecutive/concurrent to all previously imposed sentences Not serving any other sentence Credit for time served from _____

Defendant is sentenced to undergo imprisonment for not less than _____ months nor more than _____ months in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility Commitment to date from _____ Consecutive/concurrent to all previously imposed sentences Not serving any other sentence Credit for time served from _____ Eligible for Work Release Litter pick up Is not eligible for good-time credit Paroled from the Bench Costs on the County

Defendant is sentenced to Intermediate Punishment for a period of _____ months, the first _____ months of which is to be served in the following Restrictive Intermediate Punishment Program. Work Release House Arrest/Electronic Monitoring Inpatient Treatment

4293.2-05 Defendant is sentenced to Restorative Sanctions Probation and/or _____ for a period of 5 months/years in the custody of Montgomery County Adult Probation/Parole Dept. PA Board of Probation and Parole Consecutive/concurrent to _____ To date from 2-7-06

Defendant is sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution, and a fine of \$ _____ and restitution of \$ 16,164.79 to United National within the first _____ months of supervision/release from custody in monthly installments as directed Bank

Determination of guilt without further penalty Bills merge for sentencing purposes

CONCURRENT SENTENCE

CONSECUTIVE SENTENCE

Information No _____

Information No _____

AND NOW _____ sentence is _____

AND NOW _____ sentence is _____

and is to run concurrently with sentence imposed

and is to run consecutively with sentence imposed

on Info # _____

on Info # _____

SPECIAL CONDITION(S) OF SENTENCE(S)

- Outpatient treatment Inpatient treatment PPI evaluation and recommended treatment CRN evaluation and treatment Transfer to State of _____ /pursuant to Interstate Compact DNA sample and registration Comply with Megan's Law 42 PA C.S. 9793 registration requirements Community service _____ hours at site to be determined by the Montgomery County Adult Probation/Parole Dept. of the PA Board of Probation and Parole to be performed within _____ mos./yrs. Defendant shall comply with any special conditions of probation/parole/intermediate punishment imposed by the Montgomery County Adult Probation/Parole Dept. or the PA Board of Probation and Parole. Defendant shall pay the \$30.00 per month offender supervision fee Offender supervision fee waived Other: _____

Alcohol Highway Safety School or Safe Driving School Do not send to collection agency

This 24 Day of Feb. A.D. 2006

BY THE COURT

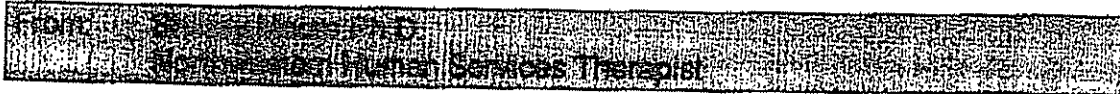
Luc B. Mackley

Handwritten signature/initials



Northwestern Human Services
Of Montgomery County
400 N. Broad Street
Lansdale, PA 19446

September 8, 2006



To Whom It May Concern:

Ms. Carol Stever has received psychiatric intervention and individual counseling since 8/25/05 for treatment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Depression. The essential feature of PTSD is the development of characteristic symptoms following exposure to an extreme traumatic stress involving direct personal experience of an event that involves actual or threatened death or serious injury or other threat to one's physical integrity or threat to the physical integrity of another person. The person's response to the event must involve intense fear, helplessness or horror. Traumatic events that are experienced directly include, but are not limited to, violent personal assault, such as, sexual assault and physical attack. The characteristic symptoms associated with this disorder include persistent re-experiencing of the traumatic event, persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma and numbing of general responsiveness, and persistent symptoms of increased arousal. The disorder may be especially severe or long lasting when the stressor is of human design, i.e., rape or torture. Phobic avoidance of situations or activities that resemble or symbolize the original trauma may interfere with interpersonal relationships and lead to marital conflict, divorce, or loss of a job. The following associated constellation of symptoms may occur and are more commonly seen in association with an interpersonal stressor (i.e., childhood sexual or physical abuse and domestic battering): feelings of ineffectiveness, shame, despair, hopelessness, feeling permanently damaged, a loss of previously sustained beliefs, hostility, social withdrawal, feeling constantly threatened, impaired relationships with others, or a change from the individual's previous personality characteristics. This may be increased risk of Panic Disorder and Major Depressive Disorder.

In reference to Ms. Stever's behaviors and inability to alert the police regarding her malevolent interaction with her client, John Longendorfer, several prior events likely influenced this decision. One, Ms. Stever was sexually molested as a child by her grandfather and uncles. Her mother and father were also verbally and emotionally abusive towards her. She felt ashamed, isolated and ineffective. As the result of this childhood environment, Ms. Stever reacted by using her anger towards obtaining a law degree. She accomplished this law degree under the most trying of

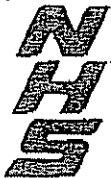


circumstances. Her husband was mostly unsupportive and excessively controlling. She took care of the children during the day and went to law school in the evening. She studied when the children were sleeping. As the children grew, her husband was not only emotionally but physically absent from her life. In 2000, her husband finally told her that he was homosexual and wanted a divorce. She had to sell her home in 2/01 for financial need and to settle the divorce. She bought a townhouse in Colledgeville for her family. Throughout the divorce and after, her husband tried to obtain custody of her children by spreading rumors about how she was an unfit mother to her neighbors, school teachers, and doctors. She and her four children were brought frequently to court for custody hearings. In 2/02, she was introduced to John Longendorfer through another inmate client at Montgomery County Correctional Center. At the time she was introduced to Mr. Longendorfer she was already in a very distressed and emotionally impoverished state.

Mr. Longendorfer appears to be a psychopath from Ms. Stever's description of his behavior. Having worked in the Criminal Justice Field evaluating inmates involved in all types of criminal activities since 1992, I feel that I have a special expertise in this area. Some of the core personality traits and behavioral deviancies associated with a psychopath include: superficial charm, grandiose sense of self-worth, lack of remorse or guilt, callousness or lack of empathy, pathological lying and deception, early behavioral problems, failure to accept responsibility for their own actions, and impulsivity. Psychopaths are easily able to identify and manipulate the most vulnerable individuals to meet their own needs.

When Ms. Stever became involved with this inmate, she was likely very vulnerable as the result of the trauma associated with her marriage, divorce and her prior childhood sexual / emotional trauma. Mr. Longendorfer offered her superficial compassion at a time when she most needed it. Ms. Stever's current and prior legal work has involved helping Chinese immigrants, who were underdogs in terms of their respective status in the United States. Thus, her choice to work with an inmate was in the same vane. What she did not understand was the psyche of antisocial personality disorder.

Ms. Stever was subsequently swindled out of money that Mr. Longendorfer owed her and stole from her. She unknowingly used the check that Mr. Longendorfer so carefully had someone else write it for him and deposited into her checking account. After it cleared, Ms. Stever used the money to purchase a car for her daughter in order for her to maintain employment while attending college. Later the check was found to be bad. Mr. Longendorfer continued to threaten and assault her physically if she did not continue to meet his demands. He also threatened to kill her children and knew their various locations. Mr. Longendorfer told her that if she ever went to the police, he would take "her and her family out one by one." Subsequently, when she was arrested and sent to Montgomery County Prison for bad checks, she was so traumatized, personally humiliated and ashamed that she had allowed this to happen to her that she pled guilty to all charges. Moreover, at the same time, she was also going through multiple family problems. At the time, she figured she could deal with a probation officer but did not realize that this would result in further consequences, namely, the suspension of her law license. As the result of her participation in therapy and treatment with psychotropic medication, Ms. Stever is now ready to fight



back for the first time. Her only sense of identity was connected with the ability to have Esquire written after her name.

While I have only briefly summarized some of the events and losses that Ms Stever has encountered since her meeting Mr. Longendorfer, I am hopeful that you have at least some sense of what led to Ms. Stever's acceptance of her recent conviction. I am hopeful that you will reconsider her suspension of her Law License and allow her to regain some sense of dignity and an ability to earn a living. I will also be happy to attend any hearings that you may deem necessary. Currently, I see Ms. Stever gaining some of her old strength back that she used when she first worked for this law license. I am hopeful that you will assist her in this effort.

Treatment Team

Shirley Moore Ph.D.
Shirley Moore Ph.D.

Therapist

Monika D. Singhal, M.D.
Monika Singhal M.D.

Psychiatrist

VERIFICATION

The statements contained in the foregoing Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent under Rule 215(d), Pa.R.D.E., are true and correct to the best of our knowledge or information and belief and are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

10/5/06
Date

Alan J. Davis
Alan J. Davis,
Disciplinary Counsel

10/6/06
Date

Samuel C. Stretton
Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1144 Disciplinary Docket
Petitioner : No. 3- Supreme Court
:
: No. 55 DB 2006
v. :
: Attorney Reg. No. 44250
:
CAROL S. STEVER, :
Respondent : (Montgomery County)

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

Respondent, Carol S. Stever, hereby states that she consents to the imposition of a suspension from the practice of law for a period of two and one-half years, retroactive to July 24, 2006, the effective date of the Order placing her on temporary suspension, and further states that:

1. She is a formerly admitted attorney, having been admitted to the bar on or about November 8, 1985.

2. She desires to submit a Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 215(d).

3. Her consent is freely and voluntarily rendered; she is not being subject to coercion or duress; and she is fully aware of the implications of submitting this consent.

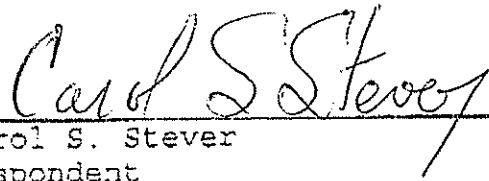
4. She has consulted with counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, in connection with her decision to consent to discipline.

5. She is aware there is presently pending a

proceeding involving allegations that she has been guilty of misconduct as set forth within the accompanying petition.

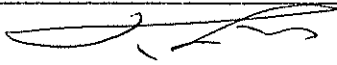
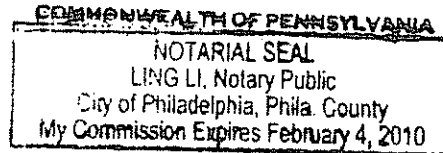
6. She acknowledges that the material facts within the petition are true.

7. She consents because she knows that if she continues to be prosecuted in the pending proceeding, she cannot successfully defend herself.



Carol S. Stever
Respondent

Sworn to and Subscribed
before me this *10th* day
of *October*, 2006.



Notary Public

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 1144 Disciplinary Docket

Petitioner : No. 3 - Supreme Court

v. :

: No. 55 DB 2006

CAROL S. STEVER, :


Respondent : Attorney Registration No. 44250

: (Montgomery County)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, 301 S. High Street, P.O. Box 3231, West Chester, PA 19381-3231, as counsel for Respondent, in accordance with the requirements of 204 Pa. Code §89.22 (relating to service by a participant) by First Class Mail.

Dated: October 16, 2006



Alan J. Davis

Disciplinary Counsel

Attorney Registration No. 12332