

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

AUGUSTA DIVISION

IN RE JOSEPH NEAL, JR.)
) No. MC-112-008
)

DECLARATION

State of Georgia
County of DeKalb

I, David S. Bills, do here by declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746,
that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1.

I am duly licensed to practice law in the State of Georgia and am
admitted to practice in all courts of the State of Georgia, including the
Supreme Court of Georgia and the Court of Appeals of Georgia, and am as
well a member of the Bar of the United States District Court for Northern
District of Georgia, the United States District Court for Middle District of
Georgia, and the United States Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

2.

I am very well familiar with the character and reputation of Joseph

Neal, Jr., and make this Declaration in Support of his pending Motion to Vacate the suspension of his membership to the Bar of this Court.

3.

I am generally familiar with the allegations against Mr. Neal arising out of his indictment for rape in the Superior Court of Richmond County and am familiar with the resolution of that case.

4.

It is my understanding that the underlying criminal case was resolved before the Superior Court of Richmond County with the State of Georgia dismissing the rape charge and Mr. Neal agreeing to enter a plea as to three non-violent, non-sexual misdemeanors on a separate accusation.

5.

To the extent that the both the Superior Judge presiding over the underlying criminal case against Mr. Neal and the Prosecutor representing the State of Georgia agreed to this resolution, it is my understanding and belief Mr Neal should now be entitled to an absolute presumption of innocence as to the rape charge and should be permitted to resume his practice of law and his representation of clients without being subjected to additional proceedings before this Court or any tribunal with respect to the

merits of the underlying criminal charge.

6.

It is likewise my understanding and belief that the misdemeanors are first offenses for Mr. Neal and should not warrant the termination of his ability to practice before this Court.

7.

Finally, because the consensual, non-criminal sexual conduct of citizens is a private matter and is entitled to protection under both the United States and Georgia Constitutions, such conduct should not become an issue for argument before or the basis for resolution of any substantial right or privilege by this Court.

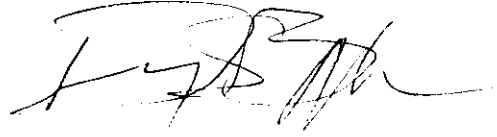
8.

Therefore, I respectfully endorse the petition of my colleague, Mr. Neal, for reinstatement as a member of the Bar of the Southern District of Georgia.

9.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements are true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on the 18th day of

September, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia.



DAVID S. BILLS

Sworn to and executed
this 18th day of September, 2012.



Notary Public

My Comm. Expires  on 7/15/2014

Roberta J Rantz
Notary Public
Newton County, Georgia
My Comm. Expires 7/15/2014