

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

AUGUSTA DIVISION

IN RE JOSEPH NEAL, JR.

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No. MC-112-008

DECLARATION

I, KELLEY J. KOSOW, ESQ., 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 licensed to practice law in the State of Florida and have been an active member of the Florida Bar since 1985. My Florida Bar Number is 0510866.
2. I am also a licensed and certified Master Integrative Life Coach, having received my training at The Ford Institute in 2002. Since that time I have been certified in many different forms and methods of coaching.
3. I have also been on staff at The Ford Institute since 2008. In that position I train people to become transformational leaders and Integrative Life Coaches and run and lead workshops in emotional education, personal transformation and self-growth.
4. I am familiar with the character and reputation of Joe Neal, Jr., and make this Declaration in Support of Joe Neal Jr.'s Motion to Vacate his suspension from practice in this federal district.
5. I am generally familiar with the criminal allegations against Joe Neal, Jr., arising out of his indictment on a charge of Rape in the Superior Court of Richmond County and am familiar with the resolution of that case.
5. I have known Mr. Neal intimately since January 2012 when he came to me for help as a result of his divorce and the fallout that had occurred both professionally and personally as a result of:

his being falsely accused of having raped his babysitter and this accusation being publicly played out by the media. I have had numerous hours of in-depth coaching sessions with Mr. Neal, using my experience and training not only as a trained and certified Master Life Coach from the Ford Institute, but also as a former practicing lawyer with a Juris Doctorate who is familiar with intense pressures of law practice and the ethical responsibilities duties of a lawyer.

6. Mr. Neal immediately and consistently stated that his sexual conduct with Melena Sprankle and Caroline Neal was consensual on the night of December 16, 2011. He adamantly denied any rape or force was used and described what happened in the privacy of his home and bedroom as a “threesome” or “*ménage a trois*.” From my experience as a lawyer and as an Integrative Life Coach who has dealt with hundreds of clients, I could tell by Mr. Neal’s candor and tone of voice with me that he was telling the truth.

7. I have met with Mr. Neal on a regular basis since he came to me in January. In my perspective the incident that happened was not rape, yet an incident where all of the participants consciously and with choice participated in and co-created the events that ensued.

8. Since the first day I worked with Mr. Neal I have been extremely impressed by his character, his willingness and desire to learn and grow from each and every experience, his humility, kindness, intelligence, integrity, honesty, commitment to truth and passion to serve others. I was also impressed that Mr. Neal took the initiative to get help for himself by personally contacting and retaining me. I have also been impressed that no matter what was going on in his personal or professional life or as a result this litigation, he was committed to meeting with me. I have had numerous one hour sessions with Mr. Neal several times a month for the past eight months. Mr. Neal has openly discussed every minute aspect and detail of his life with me in an honest exercise of self-analysis and discovery to find the root of his behavior that has adversely affected

all aspects of his life including his private, consensual sexual judgment. These sessions were deeply profound and left Mr. Neal in an extremely emotionally fragile state. He cried his way through most, if not all of these sessions, which were mentally and emotionally painful for him, going all the way back to childhood in many instances.

9. Further I have never had a client read the Bible from cover to cover, yet Mr. Neal did. I believe that as a result of this reading, our work together and taking time to be introspective, Mr. Neal has had a major shift in consciousness and priorities. It is clear to me that this experience has altered Mr. Neal completely and he will actually be more of an asset to the legal profession and serving others as a result of this situation. It would be a tremendous loss to all, if Mr. Neal was not able to share his gifts and serve others as a lawyer.

10. I am troubled that the judicial process against Mr. Neal that played out in Superior Court and resulted in the dismissal of the rape charge against Mr. Neal are now the subject of what amounts to a retrial of these charges against him in a Bar proceeding in federal court. It feels that Mr. Neal is now truly in the role of being victimized.

11. While I may not personally agree with some of the private, consensual sexual conduct of Mr. Neal that occurred in the confines of his bedroom, I also, do not agree that the private, consensual sexual conduct of a Bar member, conducted within the privacy of his or her own home, should become a professional, ethical issue for resolution for this Court. In other words, I do not believe it appropriate that this Court, or any Court for that matter, should regulate the private, consensual sexual conduct of attorneys (in their own home and bedroom) appearing before them.

11. In fact, in my coaching practice, which often involves counseling couples or individuals with martial issues, I have found that it is in fact quite common for people to engage in three-way,

consensual sex. It is certainly more of the norm now than anathematic.

12. It is my personal and professional opinion that Joseph R. Neal, Jr. is an exceptional human being and lawyer who the profession should be honored to count among its members. Mr. Neal truly cares for his clients and it is evident in the humanity and conscientiousness he has exhibited during our numerous sessions that he holds the law as sacred and that he considers himself a blessed man to be able to use the law to help the helpless. Mr. Neal has told me on more than one occasion that he can not separate the law from himself as a man. It is his life's calling and his purpose on Earth.

13. I sincerely and heartily endorse Mr. Neal for reinstatement as a member of the Bar of the Southern District of Georgia. He is an asset to our profession.

14. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing 13 paragraphs are true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on 9/15, 2012, in Miami, Florida.

Further affiant sayeth not.



KELLEY J. KOSOW, ESQ.