

4. This matter was tried before the Superior Court of Richmond County and resulted in a dismissal of the rape charge and a plea agreement to three non-violent, non-sexual misdemeanors on a separate accusation.

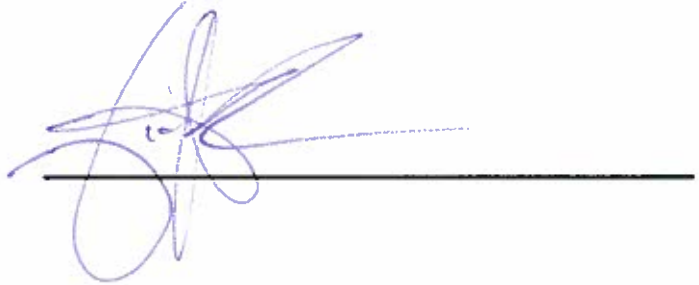
5. The question is whether this Court should in effect render the legal death penalty for private consensual sexual conduct unrelated to the misdemeanor convictions. However morally reprehensible some persons may assess Mr. Neal's conduct to be, private consensual conduct is authorized by our right to privacy under the Georgia and United States' Constitutions. Whether or not Mr. Neal engages in private conduct authorized by our Constitution which offends others, it is not unlawful and it is private. That conduct should not be a basis for suspension or disbarment or we go too far in offending our right to privacy. This disciplinary proceeding should only be about whether Mr. Neal should be suspended or disbarred for committing the misdemeanor offenses of simple possession of marijuana, furnishing alcohol to a person under 21 years of age, and disorderly conduct.

6. The rape charge has been dismissed. The misdemeanors dispositions are first offenses which rarely, if ever, have been justification for suspension or disbarment.

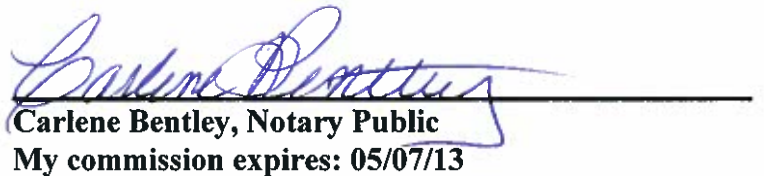
7. In light of there being no evidence in Mr Neal's history of dishonesty or misuse of his license as a lawyer, I would endorse Mr. Neal's reinstatement to the bar and allow him to continue his successful protection of injured clients.

8. There are many remedies short of disbarment or suspension which would protect the interests of the Court and the Southern District of Georgia , particularly a public reprimand.

9. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing nine paragraphs are true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on this 17 day of September, 2012 in Albany, Georgia.



SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 17 day of September 2012.



Carlene Bentley, Notary Public
My commission expires: 05/07/13

(SEAL)