No
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#### In the Supreme Court of the United States

IN THE MATTER OF OWOLABI M. SALIS
(ADMITTED AS OWOLABI M. SALIS);
AN ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR-AT-LAW:
OWOLABI M. SALIS
(OCA ATTY. REG. NO. 4012886),
Petitioner,

v.

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, APPELLATE DIV FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT SUPREME COURT OF NEW YORK STATE

Respondent.

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK COURT OF APPEALS

APPENDIX TO
PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI
VOLUME I OF II
(PAGES: 1-166)

Owolabi Salis 1179 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, NY 11213 (917) 403-0566 mosalis@gmail.com

pro se Petitioner

GibsonMoore Appellate Services, LLC 206 East Cary Street \* Richmond, VA 23219 804-249-7770 \* www.gibsonmoore.net

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#### [FILED SEPTEMBER 14, 2023]

State of New York Court of Appeals

Present, Hon. Rowan D. Wilson, Chief Judge, presiding.

Mo. No. 2022-877 In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis, &c.

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department,

Respondent;

Owolabi M. Salis, Appellant.

Appellant having appealed and moved for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals and for a stay in the above cause;

Upon the papers filed and due deliberation, it is

ORDERED, on the Court's own motion, that the appeal is dismissed, without costs, upon the ground that no substantial constitutional question is directly involved; and it is further

ORDERED, that the motion for leave to appeal is denied; and it is further

ORDERED, that the motion for a stay is dismissed as academic.

Lisa LeCours Clerk of the Court

#### [FILED NOVEMBER 29, 2022]

#### Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Sallie Manzanet-Daniels, Judith J. Gische Troy K. Webber Cynthia S. Kern Julio Rodriguez III,

J.P.,

JJ.

Motion Nos. 2022-03322& 2022-03642 Case No. 2013-00285

In the Matter of OWOLABI M. SALIS, an attorney and counselor-at law:

## ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Petitioner,

OWOLABI M. SALIS, (OCA ATTY. REG. NO. 4012886)

Respondent.

Disciplinary proceedings instituted by the Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department. Respondent was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002.

Jorge Dopico, Chief Attorney, Attorney Grievance Committee, New York (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), for petitioner.

Respondent pro se.

Motion No. 2022-03322 & 2022-03642 - September 26, 2022

#### IN THE MATTER OF OWOLABI M. SALIS, AN ATTORNEY

#### PER CURIAM

Respondent Owolabi M. Salis was admitted to the practice of law in the State of New York by the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002. At all times relevant herein, respondent maintained an office for the practice of law within the First Judicial Department.

In 2016, respondent was acquitted of criminal charges brought against him in New York County involving the filing of fraudulent immigration petitions. In 2017, the Department of Homeland Security referred respondent's conduct to the Attorney Grievance Committee (AGC), which led to charges related to the fraudulent filing of hundreds of visa petitions and adjustment of status applications. In 2019, this Court appointed a Referee to hold a hearing on the charges; after motion practice and delays caused by the pandemic, the Referee held a hearing in May 2021. Per respondent's request, the hearing focused solely on liability, with a sanction hearing, if necessary, to follow.

On March 25, 2022, the Referee issued a report sustaining all charges, finding respondent to be in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct (22 NYCRR

1200.0) rules 3.1, 3.3(f), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8.4(c), 8.4(d), and 8.4(h). On May 16, 2022 (two days before the sanction hearing), respondent moved for reargument or reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings, to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing. On May 18, 2022, the Referee presided over a sanction hearing. Respondent did not appear at the hearing, nor did he phone or email to explain his absence. The Referee found respondent in default and the sanction hearing proceeded.

By June 9 and June 10, 2022 submissions to the Referee, respondent maintained, inter alia, that the sanction hearing should not have convened while his motions for reargument/reconsideration of the Referee's findings were pending with the Court.

On June 22, 2022 (M-2028), this Court denied respondent's motion for reargument or reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings, to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing. In July 2022, respondent moved for leave to reargue the June 22, 2022 order, which motion was denied in its entirety on August 31, 2022 (M-2894, M-2895). On or about July 25, 2022, the Referee offered to reopen the sanction hearing, which the AGC did not oppose, but respondent failed to respond. By report dated August 17, 2022, the Referee recommended that respondent be disbarred.

The AGC now seeks an order confirming the Referee's liability findings and sanction recommendation and disbarring respondent. By cross motion, respondent opposes and requests, inter alia, "disaffirmation or dismissal" of the Referee's findings.

The Referee's liability findings are well founded and should be confirmed in full. Respondent's myriad of arguments against such, a good number of which have already been considered and rejected by this Court in connection with his prior motions, are without merit. As demonstrated by the record, respondent, over an eight-year period, submitted 1,185 fraudulent and frivolous I-360 petitions, only one of which was granted. In addition, respondent intentionally tried to conceal his identity from immigration authorities by not including the requisite G-28 notice of appearance form with the filings and not signing his name as the preparer thereof. He also failed to denominate his law practice's website as "attorney advertising" (corrected after the AGC brought charges) and engaged in false advertising as to the services he provided.

While neither the AGC nor the Referee cite any factually apposite disbarment cases, we find that disbarment is the appropriate sanction herein. We have imposed significant discipline, including disbarment, in matters involving immigration-related misconduct for which there was no criminal conviction (see Matter of Jaffe, 78 AD3d 152 [1st Dept 2010]; Matter of Cohen, 40 AD3d 61 [1st Dept 2007]; Matter of Berglas, 16 AD3d 1 [1st Dept 2005]). Respondent's false advertising and failure to appear at the sanction hearing only add to the case for his disbarment (see Matter of McClain-Sewer, 77 AD3d 204 [1st Dept 2010]).

Accordingly, the respondent's cross motion should be denied; and the AGC's motion to confirm the Referee's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and sanction recommendation should be granted, and respondent is disbarred and his name is stricken from the roll of attorneys in the State of New York. All concur.

IT IS ORDERED that the Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department's motion for an order pursuant to 22 NYCRR 603.8-a(t)(4) and 1240.8(b)(2) to confirm the Referee's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and sanction recommendation is granted, and the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, is disbarred and his name stricken from the roll of attorneys and counselors-at-law in the State of New York, effective the date hereof and continuing until further order of this Court, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the cross motion of respondent for "disaffirmation or dismissal" of the Referee's findings is denied, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective immediately, pursuant to Judiciary Law § 90, the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, is commanded to desist and refrain from (1) practicing law in any form, either as principal or agent, clerk or employee of another, (2) appearing as an attorney or counselor-at-law before any court, Judge, Justice, board, commission, or other public authority, (3) giving to another an opinion as to the law or its application or any advice in relation thereto, and (4) holding himself out in any way as an attorney and counselor-at-law, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, shall comply with the rules governing the conduct of disbarred or suspended attorneys (see 22 NYCRR 1240.15), which are made part hereof, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, has been issued a

secure pass by the Office of Court Administration, it shall be returned forthwith to the issuing agency.

Entered: November 29, 2022

Susanna Molina Rojas Clerk of the Court

#### [FILED JANUARY 22, 2020]

At a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court held in and for the First Judicial Department in the County of New York on January 22, 2020.

Present - Hon. Rosalyn H. Richter, Justice Presiding, Sallie Manzanet-Daniels Judith J. Gische Troy K. Webber Cynthia S. Kern, Justices.

In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis, an attorney and counselor-at-law:

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Petitioner,

Owolabi M. Salis, (OCA Atty. Reg. No. 4012886), Respondent.

# UNPUBLISHED ORDER CONFIDENTIAL M-7834

M-8805

An unpublished order of this Court having been entered on July 24, 2019 (M-1175), appointing Donald M. Zolin, Esq., as Referee to conduct a hearing on the charges against respondent (who was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division

of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002), and to make such findings of fact and conclusions of law and recommend such disciplinary sanction as may be appropriate,

And respondent, pro se, having moved this Court on October 28, 2019 (M-7834) for an order staying the subject disciplinary proceeding pending a decision in an action he filed in mid-September in the Eastern District of New York, entitled Owolabi Salis v Kevin McAleean, Acting Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, Docket No. 1:19-cv-5133,

And the Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, by Jorge Dopico, its Chief Attorney (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), having submitted an affirmation in opposition to respondent's motion,

And respondent, pro se, having submitted an affidavit in reply to the Committee's affirmation in opposition,

And Chris McDonough, Esq. and Foley Griffin LLP, having Moved this Court on December 30, 2019, (M-8805), for an order pursuant to CPLR 321 relieving them as the attorney of record for respondent and granting respondent 60 days within which to obtain substitute counsel,

And respondent having submitted an affidavit in response to counsels' motion to be relieved,

Now, upon reading and filing the papers with respect to the motions, and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is unanimously,

Ordered that respondent's motion for a stay of the disciplinary proceeding (M-7834) is denied. Respondent's counsels' motion (M-8805) is granted to

the extent of relieving Chris McDonough, Esq. and Foley Griffin LLP, as counsel for respondent, and the pending disciplinary proceeding is adjourned for 30 days to afford respondent the opportunity to retain new counsel, if so advised.

ENTERED:

Surmer Ry

CLERK

### APPELLATE DIVISION SUPPEME COURT FIRST DEPARTMENT

I, SUSANNA ROLAS, Clark of the Appellate Division of the Supreme-Conf. Fire Judicial Department, on Service comply that I have compared this copy with a the origins thereof lead in said office on 1-21-20-30. And that the same is a commodification of the end of the end of the original.

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IN WITHERS WHEREOF I have incounts seeiny hand and affect the seal of this Count

ob 1/-32-20-20

CLERK

#### [FILED JULY 24, 2019]

At a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court held in and for the First Judicial Department in the County of New York on July 24, 2019.

Present - Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, Presiding Justice,
David Friedman
John W. Sweeny, Jr.
Dianne T. Renwick
Rosalyn H. Richter, Justices.

-----x

In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis, an attorney and counselor-at-law:

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Petitioner,

Owolabi M. Salis, (OCA Atty. Regc No. 4012886), Respondent.

-----x

# UNPUBLISHED ORDER CONFIDENTIAL M-1172

The Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, by Jorge Dopico, its Chief Attorney (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), having moved this Court on May 6, 2019 for an order, pursuant to Judiciary Law§ 90(2) and 22 NYCRR 1240.8, directing that respondent (who was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial

Department on June 26, 2002) be disciplined on their attached petition of charges alleging violations of Rules 3.1, 3.3(f)(4), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8.4(c), 8.4(d), and 8.4(h) of the New York Rules of Professional Conduct, or, in the alternative, referring the matter to a referee for a hearing on any issue the Court deems appropriate, pursuant-to 22 NYCRR 1240.8(b),

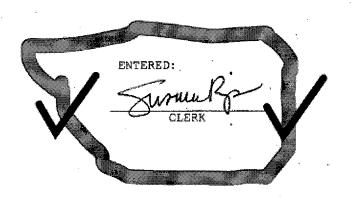
And respondent, by his attorney, Chris McDonough, Esq., having submitted an answer to the petition of charges, dated April 24, 2019, denying the conclusions of fact, the conclusions of law and any alleged rule violations contained in all six charges,

And the Committee having submitted an affirmation in reply, dated May 3, 2019, requesting that the charges be sustained or, in the alternative that the matter be referred to a referee,

And the Committee and respondent having submitted a Joint Stipulation of Disputed and Undisputed Facts in which respondent disputes all charges,

Now, upon reading and filing the papers with respect to the petition and motion, and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is unanimously,

Ordered that the motion is granted to the extent of appointing Donald M. Zolin, Esq., 225 Broadway, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10007, Tel: 212-742-9200, Fax: 212-742-7033, as referee to conduct a hearing on the charges, and to make such findings of. fact and conclusions of law and recommend such disciplinary sanction as may be appropriate (see 22 NYCRR 1240.8 and 22 NYCRR 603.8-a).



## APPELLATE DIVISION SUPREME COURT FIRST DEPARTMENT STATE OF NEW YORK

1. SUSANNA ROJAS. Clerk of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court First Judicial Department, do hereby certifythat I have compared this copy with the original thereot liter in said office on 7/24/29 and that the same is a correct transcript inervol, and of the whole of said original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and afficed the seal of this Court on 7/24/29.

#### [FILED JANUARY 26, 2023]

#### Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Present – Hon. Sallie Manzanet-Daniels,
Justice Presiding,
Troy K. Webber
Cynthia S. Kern
Julio Rodriguez III
Bahaati E. Pitt-Burke,
Jus

Justices.

In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis, a disbarred attorney:

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Petitioner,

Owolabi M. Salis (OCA Atty. Reg. No. 4012886), Respondent.

Motion No. 2022-04850 2022-04851

Case No. 2013-00285

An unpublished order of this Court having been entered on July 24, 2019 (M-1172), granting the Attorney Grievance Committee's motion for an order, pursuant to Judiciary Law § 90(2) and 22 NYCRR 1240.8, directing that respondent (who was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002) be disciplined on an attached petition of charges alleging violations of Rules 3.1, 3.3(f)(4), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8.4(c), 8.4(d), and 8.4(h) of the New York Rules of Professional Conduct,

to the extent of referring the matter to a Referee to conduct a hearing on the charges, and to make such findings of fact, conclusions of law and to recommend such disciplinary sanction as may be appropriate,

And the Referee, after hearing, having submitted a report, dated March 25, 2022, in which he found that the Committee had adequately proven all six charges of misconduct, with a sanction hearing scheduled to follow.

And an unpublished order of this Court having been entered on June 22, 2022 denying respondent's motion seeking reargument or reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings and to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing (M-2022-02028),

And an unpublished order of this Court having been entered on August 31, 2022 denying respondent's motion for reargument, and his separate motion for leave to appeal from, the aforesaid order of this Court, entered June 22, 2022 (M-2022-02894 and M-2022-02895),

And an order of this Court having been entered on November 29, 2022 granting the Attorney Grievance Committee's motion to confirm the Referee's liability findings, and the Referee's report following the sanctions hearing, in which respondent did not appear, which recommended that respondent be disbarred, and denying respondent's cross motion to disaffirm or dismiss the Referee's findings (M-2022-03322 and M-2022-03642),

And respondent having moved this Court for an order for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals from this Court's order entered on November 29, 2022

disbarring him, and for an order vacating or amending the aforesaid order,

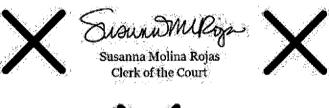
And the Attorney Grievance Committee, by Jorge Dopico, its Chief Attorney (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), having submitted a letter dated December 15, 2022, in opposition to both motions, requesting that the motions be denied,

Now, upon reading the papers filed in support and in opposition to the motions and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is

ORDERED that the motion for an order granting leave to appeal the November 29, 2022 disbarment order of this Court to the Court of Appeals is denied (M-2022-04850), and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the motion for an order vacating or amending the disbarment order is denied (M—2022-04851).

Dated: January 26, 2023





#### [FILED NOVEMBER 29, 2022]

#### Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Sallie Manzanet-Daniels, Judith J. Gische Troy K. Webber Cynthia S. Kern Julio Rodriguez III,

JJ.

J.P.,

Motion Nos. 2022-03322& 2022-03642 Case No. 2013-00285

In the Matter of OWOLABI M. SALIS, an attorney and counselor-at law:

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, Petitioner,

OWOLABI M. SALIS, (OCA ATTY. REG. NO. 4012886)

Respondent.

Disciplinary proceedings instituted by the Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department. Respondent was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002.

Jorge Dopico, Chief Attorney, Attorney Grievance Committee, New York (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), for petitioner.

Respondent pro se.

Motion No. 2022-03322 & 2022-03642 - September 26, 2022

#### IN THE MATTER OF OWOLABI M. SALIS, AN ATTORNEY

#### PER CURIAM

Respondent Owolabi M. Salis was admitted to the practice of law in the State of New York by the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002. At all times relevant herein, respondent maintained an office for the practice of law within the First Judicial Department.

In 2016, respondent was acquitted of criminal charges brought against him in New York County involving the filing of fraudulent immigration petitions. In 2017, the Department of Homeland Security referred respondent's conduct to the Attorney Grievance Committee (AGC), which led to charges related to the fraudulent filing of hundreds of visa petitions and adjustment of status applications. In 2019, this Court appointed a Referee to hold a hearing on the charges; after motion practice and delays caused by the pandemic, the Referee held a hearing in May 2021. Per respondent's request, the hearing focused solely on liability, with a sanction hearing, if necessary, to follow.

On March 25, 2022, the Referee issued a report sustaining all charges, finding respondent to be in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct (22 NYCRR 1200.0) rules 3.1, 3.3(f), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8.4(c), 8.4(d), and 8.4(h). On May 16, 2022 (two days before the sanction hearing), respondent moved for reargument or reconsideration of the

Referee's liability findings, to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing. On May 18, 2022, the Referee presided over a sanction hearing. Respondent did not appear at the hearing, nor did he phone or email to explain his absence. The Referee found respondent in default and the sanction hearing proceeded.

By June 9 and June 10, 2022 submissions to the Referee, respondent maintained, inter alia, that the sanction hearing should not have convened while his motions for reargument/reconsideration of the Referee's findings were pending with the Court.

On June 22, 2022 (M-2028), this Court denied motion for respondent's reargument reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings, to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing. In July 2022, respondent moved for leave to reargue the June 22, 2022 order, which motion was denied in its entirety on August 31, 2022 (M-2894, M-2895). On or about July 25, 2022, the Referee offered to reopen the sanction hearing, which the AGC did not oppose, but respondent failed to respond. By report dated August 17, 2022. the Referee recommended that respondent be disbarred.

The AGC now seeks an order confirming the Referee's liability findings and sanction recommendation and disbarring respondent. By cross motion, respondent opposes and requests, inter alia, "disaffirmation or dismissal" of the Referee's findings.

The Referee's liability findings are well founded and should be confirmed in full.

Respondent's myriad of arguments against such, a good number of which have already been considered and rejected by this Court in connection with his prior motions, are without merit. As demonstrated by the record, respondent, over an eight-year period, submitted 1,185 fraudulent and frivolous I-360 petitions, only one of which was granted. In addition, respondent intentionally tried to conceal his identity from immigration authorities by not including the requisite G-28 notice of appearance form with the filings and not signing his name as the preparer thereof. He also failed to denominate his law practice's website as "attorney advertising" (corrected after the AGC brought charges) and engaged in false advertising as to the services he provided.

While neither the AGC nor the Referee cite any factually apposite disbarment cases, we find that disbarment is the appropriate sanction herein. We have imposed significant discipline, including disbarment, in matters involving immigration-related misconduct for which there was no criminal conviction (see Matter of Jaffe, 78 AD3d 152 [1st Dept 2010]; Matter of Cohen, 40 AD3d 61 [1st Dept 2007]; Matter of Berglas, 16 AD3d 1 [1st Dept 2005]). Respondent's false advertising and failure to appear at the sanction hearing only add to the case for his disbarment (see Matter of McClain-Sewer, 77 AD3d 204 [1st Dept 2010]).

Accordingly, the respondent's cross motion should be denied; and the AGC's motion to confirm the Referee's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and sanction recommendation should be granted, and respondent is disbarred and his name is

stricken from the roll of attorneys in the State of New York.

#### All concur.

IT IS ORDERED that the Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department's motion for an order pursuant to 22 NYCRR 603.8-a(t)(4) and 1240.8(b)(2) to confirm the Referee's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and sanction recommendation is granted, and the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, is disbarred and his name stricken from the roll of attorneys and counselors-at-law in the State of New York, effective the date hereof and continuing until further order of this Court, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the cross motion of respondent for "disaffirmation or dismissal" of the Referee's findings is denied, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective immediately, pursuant to Judiciary Law § 90, the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, is commanded to desist and refrain from (1) practicing law in any form, either as principal or agent, clerk or employee of another, (2) appearing as an attorney or counselor-at-law before any court, Judge, Justice, board, commission, or other public authority, (3) giving to another an opinion as to the law or its application or any advice in relation thereto, and (4) holding himself out in any way as an attorney and counselor-at-law, and

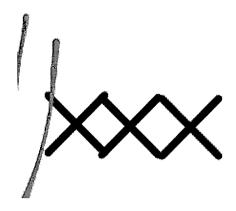
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, shall comply with the rules governing the conduct of disbarred or

suspended attorneys (see 22 NYCRR 1240.15), which are made part hereof, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if the respondent, Owolabi M. Salis, has been issued a secure pass by the Office of Court Administration, it shall be returned forthwith to the issuing agency.

Entered: November 29, 2022





#### [FILED AUGUST 31, 2022]

#### Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Present – Hon. Sallie Manzanet-Daniels, Justice Presiding, Judith J. Gische Troy K. Webber Cynthia S. Kern Julio Rodriguez III, Justices.

In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis an attorney and counselor-at-law:

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Petitioner,

Owolabi M. Salis (OCA Atty. Reg. No. 4012886), Respondent.

Motion No. 2022-02894 2022-02895 Case No. 2013-00285

## UNPUBLISHED ORDER CONFIDENTIAL

An unpublished order of this Court having been entered on July 24, 2019 (M-1172), granting The Attorney Grievance Committee's motion for an order, pursuant to Judiciary Law § 90(2) and 22 NYCRR 1240.8, directing that respondent (who was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002) be disciplined on their attached petition of charges alleging violations of

Rules 3.1, 3.3(f)(4), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8.4(c), 8.4(d), and 8.4(h) of the New York Rules of Professional Conduct, to the extent of referring the matter to a Referee to conduct a hearing on the charges, and to make such findings of fact, conclusions of law and to recommend such disciplinary sanction as may be appropriate,

And the Referee, after hearing, having submitted a report, dated March 25, 2022, in which he found that the Committee had adequately proven all six charges of misconduct, with a sanction hearing scheduled to follow,

And an order of this Court having been entered on June 22, 2022 (M-2022-02028) denying respondent's motion seeking reargument or reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings and to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing,

And respondent, pro se, having separately moved this Court on August 1, 2022, for an order granting reargument of (M-2022-02894), and for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals from (M-2022-02895), the aforesaid order of this Court, entered June 22, 2022,

And the Attorney Grievance Committee, by Jorge Dopico, its Chief Attorney (Kevin M. Doyle, of counsel), having submitted separate affirmations in opposition to the motion to reargue and the motion for leave to appeal,

Now, upon reading the papers filed in support and in opposition to the motions, and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is

Ordered that the motion (M-2022-02894) for an order granting reargument of aforesaid order of this

Court, entered June 22, 2022, is denied, and it is further

Ordered that the motion (M-2022-02895) for an order seeking leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals from the aforesaid order of this Court, entered June 22, 2022, is denied.

Entered: August 31, 2022





#### [FILED JUNE 22, 2022]

#### Supreme court of the State of New York Appellate Division, First Judicial Department

Present - Hon. Sallie Manzanet-Daniels,
Justice Presiding,
Judith J. Gische
Troy K. Webber
Cynthia S. Kern
Julio Rodriguez III,

Justices.

In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis an attorney and counselor at law:

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Petitioner,

Owolabi M. Salis (OCA Atty. Reg. No. 4012886), Respondent.

Motion No. 2022-02028 Case No. 2013-00285

#### UNPUBLISHED ORDER CONFIDENTIAL

An unpublished order of this Court having been entered on July 24, 2019 (M-1172), granting The Attorney Grievance Committee's motion for an order, pursuant to Judiciary Law§ 90(2) and 22 NYCRR 1240.8, directing that respondent (who was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the State of New York at a Term of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial Department on June 26, 2002) be disciplined on their attached petition of charges alleging violations of Rules 3.1, 3.3(f)(4), 7.1(a)(1), 7.1(f), 8-4(c), 8-4(d), and 8-4(h) of the

New York Rules of Professional Conduct, to the extent of referring the matter to a Referee to conduct a hearing on the charges, and to make such findings of fact, conclusions of law and to recommend such disciplinary sanction as may be appropriate,

And the Referee, after hearing, having submitted a report, dated March 25, 2022, in which he found that the Committee had adequately proven all six charges of misconduct, with a sanction hearing scheduled to follow,

And respondent, pro se, having moved this Court on June 6, 2022 for reargument or reconsideration of the Referee's liability findings and to disaffirm same, and to stay the sanction hearing,

And the Committee, by Jorge Dopico, Esq., its Chief Attorney (Kevin M. Doyle, Esq., of counsel) having submitted an answer in opposition to respondent's motion,

Now, upon reading and filing the papers with respect to the motion, and due deliberation having been had thereon, it is unanimously,

ORDERED that the motion is denied in its entirety.

Entered: June 22, 2022





#### [FILED DECEMBER 14, 2023]

State of New York
Court of Appeals

Decided and Entered on the fourteenth day of December, 2023

Present, Hon. Rowan D. Wilson, *Chief Judge, presiding.* 

Mo. No. 2023-674 In the Matter of Owolabi M. Salis, &c.

Attorney Grievance Committee for the First Judicial Department, Respondent;

Owolabi M. Salis, Appellant.

Appellant having moved for reargument in the above cause;

Upon the papers filed and due deliberation, it is

ORDERED, that the motion is denied.

Lisa LeCours
Clerk of the Court

# Additional material from this filing is available in the Clerk's Office.