

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Complainant,

v.

WANDA BERNICE WHIGHAM,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case No.  
SC-

The Florida Bar File No.  
2017-50,480(15F)

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**CONDITIONAL GUILTY PLEA FOR CONSENT JUDGMENT**

The undersigned respondent, Wanda Bernice Whigham, files this Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment under R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.9.

1. Respondent is, and at all times relevant to this matter was, a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida and the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

2. Respondent is acting freely and voluntarily in this matter, and tenders this plea without fear or threat of coercion. Respondent is represented in this matter.

3. On February 28, 2025, The Supreme Court of Florida rejected The Florida Bar Board of Governors' recommendation of the disposition of

this matter. The Court's action is deemed a finding of probable cause under Rule 3-7.18(d)(2)(B) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

4. The disciplinary measures to be imposed on respondent are:
  - a. Public reprimand, to be administered in writing by the Grievance Committee Chair within 30 days following the Court's order approving this consent judgment, to be published in the *Southern Reporter*.
  - b. Respondent must complete the following continuing legal education course(s) at respondent's own expense within 30 days of the Supreme Court of Florida's order approving the consent judgment:

Course Title – The Your Honor Series

Credit Hours – [7.0]

Credit Expiration Date: [N/A]

Course Numbers: [5820, 5894, 5943, 6206, 6207, 6288, and 6530]

Online Seminar (On-Demand) offered by The Florida Bar.

Course Title – 2025 Professionalism Expectations: A Mandatory CLE for Members of The Florida Bar

Credit Hours – [2.0]

Credit Expiration Date: [available for 180 days after registration]

Course Number: [8907].

Online Seminar (On-Demand) offered by The Florida Bar.

Respondent must pay the cost of the above continuing legal education course(s) directly to the continuing legal education provider(s).

These continuing legal education programs are in addition to the continuing legal education requirements for Florida Bar members under Chapter 6 of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

Should these courses no longer be offered; respondent agrees to take equivalent courses approved by The Florida Bar prior to registering for the courses.

Respondent will submit an affidavit of completion to the Lawyer Regulation, Headquarters, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

c. Payment of disciplinary costs.

5. The following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- (a) Respondent filed for personal bankruptcy, upon the recommendation of her counsel, after a foreclosure deficiency judgment was entered against her.
- (b) More than a year before the entry of the deficiency judgment, respondent received a monetary settlement from a discrimination lawsuit she filed against her former employer.
- (c) Prior to receiving the monetary settlement, respondent was unemployed for many months.
- (d) Respondent (debtor) was represented by counsel throughout the bankruptcy court proceedings.
- (e) Respondent timely and accurately disclosed the amount of the lawsuit settlement in her initial statement of financial affairs in the bankruptcy case, but she failed to list one of her bank accounts on her initial bankruptcy disclosures.

- (f) After her deposition and months before the start of the adversary trial, respondent obtained additional financial documents, filed amended bankruptcy schedules, filed supporting documents showing expenditures made from the settlement proceeds and bank statements from the belatedly disclosed bank account.
- (g) The bankruptcy court determined respondent should have known to disclose the bank account earlier in her bankruptcy filings and at her deposition, and denied respondent's request for discharge.
- (h) Although there were no settlement proceeds in the belatedly disclosed bank account when respondent filed for bankruptcy, the bank account was an asset which respondent, the debtor in the bankruptcy case was required to disclose.
- (i) By reason of the foregoing, respondent violated the following R. Regulating Fla. Bar: Rule 3-4.3 (misconduct and minor misconduct); and Rule 4-8.4(a) (violate or attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct).

6. In mitigation, under Florida's Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions respondent asserts the absence of a prior disciplinary history 3.3(b)(1); full and free disclosure to the bar or cooperative attitude toward the proceedings 3.3(b)(5); character or reputation 3.3(b)(7); and remorse 3.3(b)(12).

7. In aggravation, under Florida's Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanction respondent has substantial experience in the practice of law 3.2(b)(9). Respondent was admitted to The Florida Bar on October 9, 1998.

8. The Florida Bar has approved this proposed plea as required by R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.9.

9. If this plea is not finally approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar and the Supreme Court of Florida, then it has no effect and may not be used by the parties in any way.

10. If this plea is approved, respondent agrees to pay all reasonable costs associated with this case under Rule 3-7.6(q) in the amount of **\$1,968.70**. These costs are due within 30 days of the court order. Respondent agrees that if the costs are not paid within 30 days of this Court's order becoming final, respondent will pay interest on any unpaid costs at the statutory rate. Respondent further agrees these disciplinary costs are not dischargeable in any future proceedings, including, but not limited to, a petition for bankruptcy. Respondent will be delinquent and ineligible to practice law if respondent does not satisfy the cost judgment within 30 days of this order, unless The Florida Bar Board of Governors defers payment under R. Regulating Fla. Bar 1-3.6.

11. Respondent acknowledges the obligation to pay the costs of this proceeding, and that payment is evidence of strict compliance with the conditions of any disciplinary order or agreement and is evidence of good faith and fiscal responsibility.

12. This Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment fully complies with all requirements of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

Dated this 23 day of June, 2025.



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Wanda Bernice Whigham, Respondent  
515 N. Flagler Dr., Ste. P300  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4326  
(561) 685-2681  
Florida Bar No. 155063  
[wbwhigham@whighamlegal.com](mailto:wbwhigham@whighamlegal.com)

Dated this 23 day of June, 2025.



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Douglas Crane Broeker,  
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Dated this 23 day of June ,2025.



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Filed with the Supreme Court of Florida via the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal with copies of the Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment served via the Portal to:

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA  
(Before a Referee)

THE FLORIDA BAR,  
Complainant,

v.

WANDA BERNICE WHIGHAM,  
Respondent.

Supreme Court Case  
No.

The Florida Bar File  
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\_\_\_\_\_ /

**STIPULATION TO ENTRY OF AGREED ORDER**

The Florida Bar and Wanda Bernice Whigham, stipulate to the entry of the attached order in this case, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court of Florida and state:

Respondent is and, at all times relevant to this matter was, a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida.

Respondent is simultaneously tendering a conditional guilty plea under an agreement with The Florida Bar for a consent judgment.

If the conditional guilty plea is approved, respondent agrees to the terms and conditions in the agreed consent judgment and attached order.

It is therefore stipulated by The Florida Bar and respondent that the attached order should be entered on approval of the Supreme Court of Florida.

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2025.



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