

IN RE: PETER J. UNITT

NO. BD-2009-031

S.J.C. Judgment of Disbarment entered by Justice Cordy on March 13, 2014.¹

SUMMARY²

On July 10, 2013, Peter J. Unitt, the respondent, was convicted in Middlesex Superior Court of embezzlement by a fiduciary in violation of G.L. c. 266, § 57, after entering a plea pursuant to *North Carolina v. Alford*, 400 U.S. 25 (1970). The respondent was sentenced to the house of correction for two years, with one hundred twenty days credited as time served and the balance suspended for four years with the condition that he pay restitution. Embezzlement by a fiduciary is a felony and a “serious crime” as defined by S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 12(3).

The respondent was temporarily suspended from the practice of law on May 19, 2009. On January 21, 2014, the respondent submitted an affidavit of resignation admitting to the conviction and that his conduct had violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15 (b) and 8.4(a), (b), (c) and (h). Bar counsel recommended that the resignation be accepted as a disciplinary sanction pursuant to Supreme Judicial Court Rule 4:01, § 15, and the effective date be retroactive to May 19, 2009.

On February 24, 2014, the Board of Bar Overseers voted to recommend to the Supreme Judicial Court that the affidavit of resignation be accepted and that a judgment of disbarment be entered effective on the date of entry. On March 13, 2014, the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County (Cordy, J.) accepted the resignation and entered a judgment of disbarment retroactive to May 19, 2009.

¹ The complete Order of the Court is available by contacting the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County.

² Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record filed with the Supreme Judicial Court.