

## SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

# In re Administrative Suspensions for Failure to Pay License Fees Required by Rule 410 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules

416 S.C. 455 (2016) · Decided February 26, 2016

### SUMMARY

The South Carolina Supreme Court ordered the administrative suspension of listed lawyers who failed to pay their 2016 license fees required by Rule 410 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules. The order directs the suspended lawyers to surrender their certificates of admission and explains the requirements and consequences of reinstatement and continued practice.

### CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | Supreme Court of South Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Costa M. Pleicones, C.J.; Donald W. Beatty, J.; John W. Kittredge, J.; Kaye G. Hearn, J.; John Cannon Few, J.                                                                                                                                                            |
| JURISDICTION          | South Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| DECIDED               | February 26, 2016                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | The South Carolina Bar submitted to the Supreme Court of South Carolina a list of lawyers who had failed to pay their 2016 license fees. The court issued an order administratively suspending those lawyers from the practice of law pursuant to Rule 419(d)(1), SCACR. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | Published opinion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

### TOPICS

[administrative law](#) [appellate procedure](#) [agency adjudication](#)

### PRACTICE AREAS

[Administrative law](#) [Legal ethics and professional responsibility](#) [Appellate procedure](#)

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether lawyers who failed to pay the 2016 license fees required by the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules should be administratively suspended from the practice of law.

2. What procedures and consequences apply to lawyers suspended for failure to pay the required license fees.

#### **HOLDINGS**

1. Lawyers identified by the South Carolina Bar as having failed to pay their 2016 license fees are suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Rule 419(d)(1), SCACR.
2. A suspended lawyer must pursue reinstatement in the manner specified by Rule 419(e), SCACR, and continued practice after suspension constitutes unauthorized practice of law and may subject the lawyer to disciplinary action or contempt proceedings.

#### **KEY QUOTATIONS**

*“Pursuant to Rule 419(d)(1), SCACR, these lawyers are hereby suspended from the practice of law.”* (455)

*“These lawyers are warned that any continuation of the practice of law in this State after being suspended by this order is the unauthorized practice of law”* (455)

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

The South Carolina Bar reported that the listed lawyers had failed to pay their 2016 license fees. The court suspended those lawyers from practicing law and directed them to surrender their certificates of admission by March 24, 2016. The order also stated that reinstatement had to be sought under Rule 419(e), SCACR, and warned that continued practice would constitute unauthorized practice of law.

#### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The South Carolina Bar furnished the court with a list of lawyers, including lawyers holding limited certificates to practice law, who had not paid the required 2016 license fees. The Supreme Court entered the suspension order directly under its rules; no lower-court proceeding is identified.

#### **DISPOSITION**

other

#### **OPINION**

PLEICONES, J.

ORDER The South Carolina Bar has furnished the attached list of lawyers (including those holding a limited certificate to practice law) who have failed to pay their license fees for 2016. Pursuant to Rule 419(d)(1), SCACR, these lawyers are hereby suspended from the practice of law. They shall surrender their certificate of admission to practice law to the Clerk of this Court by March 24, 2016.

Any petition for reinstatement must be made in the manner specified by Rule 419(e), SCACR. Additionally, if they have not verified their information in the Attorney Information System, they shall do so prior to seeking reinstatement. These lawyers are warned that any continuation of the practice of law in this State after being suspended by this order is the unauthorized practice of law, and will subject them to disciplinary action under Rule 418, SCACR, and could result in a finding of criminal or civil contempt by this Court.

Further, any lawyer who is aware of any violation of this suspension shall report the matter to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. Rule 8.3, Rules of Professional Conduct for Lawyers, Rule 407, SCACR. /s/Costa M. Pleicones, C.J. /s/Donald W. Beatty, J. /s/John W. Kittredge, J. /s/Kaye G. Hearn, J. /s/John Cannon Few, J. \*456ATTACHMENT Members Who Have Not Paid 2016 License Pees April Amanda Arrásate 151 Talcott Notch Rd.

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