State of New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division Third Judicial Department

Decided and Entered: March 3, 2022 PM-43-22

In the Matter of ATTORNEYS IN VIOLATION OF JUDICIARY LAW § 468-a.

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

DECISION AND ORDER
ON MOTION

Petitioner;

SHITONG QIAO,

Respondent.

(Attorney Registration No. 5161716)

Calendar Date: February 22, 2022

Before: Garry, P.J., Clark, Reynolds Fitzgerald, Colangelo and

McShan, JJ.

Monica A. Duffy, Attorney Grievance Committee for the Third Judicial Department, Albany, for Attorney Grievance Committee for the Third Judicial Department.

Shitong Qiao, Durham, North Carolina, respondent pro se.

Motion by respondent for an order reinstating him to the practice of law following his suspension by October 2021 order of this Court (Matter of Attorneys in Violation of Judiciary Law § 468-a, 198 AD3d 1068, 1083 [2021]; see Rules for Attorney Disciplinary Matters [22 NYCRR] § 1240.16; Rules of App Div, 3d Dept [22 NYCRR] § 806.16).

Upon reading respondent's notice of motion and affidavit with exhibits sworn to December 17, 2021, and the February 17, 2022 responsive correspondence from the Attorney Grievance Committee for the Third Judicial Department, and having determined, by clear and convincing evidence, that (1) respondent has complied with the order of suspension and the Rules of this Court, (2) respondent has the requisite character and fitness to practice law, and (3) it would be in the public interest to reinstate respondent to the practice of law (see Matter of Attorneys in Violation of Judiciary Law § 468-a [Toussaint], 196 AD3d 830, 830-831 [2021]), it is

ORDERED that respondent's motion for reinstatement is granted; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent is reinstated as an attorney and counselor-at-law, effectively immediately.

Garry, P.J., Clark, Reynolds Fitzgerald, Colangelo and McShan, JJ., concur.

ENTER:

Robert D. Mayberger Clerk of the Court