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

Decided and Entered: February 13, 2025

PM-40-25

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

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, Petitioner:

DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION

LOU MARIE FAUSTINE BERNARD, Respondent.

(Attorney Registration No. 5636972)

Calendar Date: December 30, 2024

Monica A. Duffy, Attorney Grievance Committee for the Third Judicial Department, Albany (Alison M. Coan of counsel), for Attorney Grievance Committee for the Third Judicial Department.

Lou Marie Faustine Bernard, Paris, France, respondent pro se.

Motion by respondent for an order reinstating her to the practice of law following her suspension by September 2024 order of this Court (*Matter of Attorneys in Violation of Judiciary Law § 468-a*, 230 AD3d 1498, 1502 [3d Dept 2024]; *see* Rules for Atty 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 November 18, 2024 and the December 20, 2024 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* Rules for Atty Disciplinary Matters [22 NYCRR] § 1240.16 [a]), it is

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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, effective immediately.

Garry, P.J., Lynch, Fisher, McShan and Powers, JJ., concur.

ENTER:

Robert D. Mayberger Clerk of the Court