



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS  
BOARD ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the Matter of: :  
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 :  
 ROBERT H. BIDEN, :  
 : D.C. App. No. 24-BG-0553  
 Respondent. : Board Docket No. 24-BD-035  
 : Disc. Docket No. 2024-D103  
 A Suspended Member of the Bar of the :  
 District of Columbia Court of Appeals :  
 (Bar Registration No. 973866) :

ORDER OF THE BOARD ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

This matter is before the Board on Professional Responsibility (the “Board”) following a jury verdict finding Respondent guilty of violating 18 U.S.C. § 922(a)(6) (knowingly making a false statement in the purchase of a firearm); 18 U.S.C. § 924(a)(1)(A) (making a false statement during a firearm purchase in relation to information kept by a federal firearms licensed dealer); and, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(3) (knowingly possessing a firearm, with the knowledge that he was an unlawful user of a controlled substance or addicted to a controlled substance).

On June 25, 2024, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals (the “Court”) directed the Board to institute a formal proceeding to determine the nature of Respondent’s offense and whether the crime involves moral turpitude within the meaning of D.C. Code § 11-2503(a) (2001). Disciplinary Counsel

asserts that Respondent's offenses are not crimes of moral turpitude *per se*, relying on prior cases in which the false statements in documents required by federal law did not constitute moral turpitude *per se*. Disciplinary Counsel recommends that this matter be referred to a Hearing Committee to determine whether Respondent's conduct involved moral turpitude on the facts, and to recommend the final discipline to be imposed. Respondent agrees with Disciplinary Counsel.

Having reviewed the authority cited by Disciplinary Counsel, we agree with the parties that Respondent was not convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude *per se*.

Accordingly, this matter is hereby referred to a Hearing Committee to determine whether Respondent's conviction involved moral turpitude on the facts, and if not, for a recommendation of the appropriate final discipline as a result of Respondent's conviction of a serious crime. Disciplinary Counsel may also file a petition charging that Respondent violated one or more Rules of Professional Conduct. If Disciplinary Counsel files such a petition, it shall be consolidated with this matter. Disciplinary Counsel shall inform the Hearing Committee no later than 30 days following this Order of the status of any

petition, and every 60 days thereafter, to that the Hearing Committee may manage its docket.

BOARD ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

By: *Bernadette C. Sargeant*  
Bernadette C. Sargeant, Chair

All members of the Board concur in this Order, except Dr. Hindle, who did not participate.

Copies served by e-mail to:

Robert H. Biden  
c/o Abbe Lowell, Esquire  
[ADLowell@winston.com](mailto:ADLowell@winston.com)

Angela M. Walker  
Staff Attorney  
Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
[walkera@dcodc.org](mailto:walkera@dcodc.org)