

**IN RE: JOSEPH A. CARAMADRE****NO. BD-2012-115****S.J.C. Judgment of Disbarment entered by Justice Spina on August 10, 2016.¹****SUMMARY²**

Joseph A. Caramadre (“respondent”), who was admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth on July 14, 1994, was disbarred as a reciprocal sanction pursuant to S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 16, based upon his disbarment by the Florida Supreme Court. The Florida disbarment resulted from the following misconduct.

On November 19, 2012, the respondent pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island to one count of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341 and one count of conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 to commit mail fraud, wire fraud, identity fraud, and aggravated identity fraud. He filed a motion to revoke his guilty plea on February 28, 2013, which was denied on August 1, 2013. On December 16, 2013, the respondent was sentenced to 72 months of imprisonment followed by three years of supervised release and was ordered to make restitution in the total amount of \$46,330,077.61. The respondent’s appeal from the denial of the motion to revoke the guilty plea was rejected by the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit on December 7, 2015, and certiorari was denied on May 23, 2016.

The respondent’s plea was based upon the following. From 1995 through August of 2010, the respondent and a co-defendant executed a scheme to defraud terminally ill individuals and financial institutions. They obtained identity information and signatures from terminally ill individuals fraudulently by concealing the use to which they intended to put the information. They then invested in variable annuities and corporate bonds with death benefit features, using the terminally ill individuals as measuring lives. When the individuals died, the respondent and his co-defendant cashed in the annuities and bonds.

The respondent was temporarily suspended in Massachusetts on January 25, 2013, pending further disciplinary proceedings. The respondent has also been a member of the bars of Rhode Island and Florida. Based upon the guilty plea, the respondent was temporarily suspended in Rhode Island, pending his appeal from the denial of his motion to revoke his plea. Also based upon the guilty plea, the respondent was disbarred by the Florida Supreme Court on April 29, 2014.

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.

On May 13, 2016, bar counsel filed a petition for reciprocal discipline with the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County based upon the respondent's disbarment in Florida. After a telephone hearing, the Court (Spina, J.) on August 10, 2016, entered an amended judgment of disbarment, retroactive to January 25, 2013, the date of the respondent's temporary suspension.