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STATE BAR COURT
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STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

REVIEW DEPARTMENT

IN BANK



In the Matter of)	Case No. 13-C-12812
)	
CARLTON NEIL MORSE,)	RECOMMENDATION OF
)	SUMMARY DISBARMENT
A Member of the State Bar, No. 254106.)	
_____)	

On October 14, 2014, the State Bar's Office of Chief Trial Counsel (OCTC) filed a request for summary disbarment based on Carlton Neil Morse's felony conviction. Morse did not respond. We grant the request and recommend that Morse be summarily disbarred.

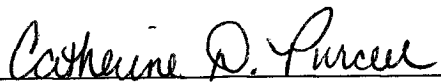
On January 18, 2012, Morse pled guilty to a felony violation of title 18 United States Code section 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) (possession of child pornography). On October 14, 2014, OCTC submitted evidence that the conviction had become final. On October 30, 2014, we placed Morse on interim suspension.

After the judgment of conviction becomes final, "the Supreme Court shall summarily disbar the attorney if the offense is a felony . . . and an element of the offense is the specific intent to deceive, defraud, steal, or make or suborn a false statement, or involved moral turpitude." (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6102, subd. (c).) The record of conviction establishes both criteria for summary disbarment.

First, Morse was charged with and convicted of a felony. (18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B) and (b)(2) [child pornography is punishable by imprisonment up to 20 years]; 18 U.S.C. § 3559(a) [crime punishable with imprisonment of one year or more is a felony].) Second, the

crime of child pornography “constitutes moral turpitude per se. . . . The knowing possession of child pornography is ‘a serious breach of the duties of respect and care that all adults owe to all children, and it show[s] such a flagrant disrespect for the law and for societal norms, that continuation of [*a convicted attorney's*] State Bar membership would be likely to undermine public confidence in and respect for the legal profession.’ [Citation].” (*In re Grant* (2014) 58 Cal.4th 469, 480-481 [discussing an attorney’s conviction for violating California’s possession of child pornography statute, Pen. Code § 311.11].) When an attorney’s conviction meets the requirements of Business and Professions Code section 6102, subdivision (c), “the attorney is not entitled to a State Bar Court hearing to determine whether lesser discipline is called for.” (*In re Paguirigan* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 1, 7.) Disbarment is mandatory. (*Id.* at p. 9.)

We therefore recommend that Carlton Neil Morse, State Bar number 254106, be disbarred from the practice of law in this state. We also recommend that he be ordered to comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20 and to perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court’s order. Finally, we recommend that the costs be awarded to the State Bar in accordance with section 6086.10 of the Business and Professions Code and that such costs be enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.



Presiding Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of Los Angeles, on December 5, 2014, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

RECOMMENDATION OF SUMMARY DISBARMENT FILED DECEMBER 5, 2014

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

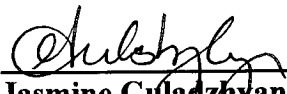
- [X] by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

**CARLTON N. MORSE
840 NEWPORT CENTER DR STE 400
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660**

- [X] by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

CHARLES A. MURRAY, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on December 5, 2014.



Jasmine Guladzhyan
Case Administrator
State Bar Court