

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

In the Matter of:

HASSAN ALI ABBAS,  
Attorney-Respondent,  
No. 6206474.

Supreme Court No. M.R.  
Commission No. 2022PR00083

MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a)

The undersigned, Hassan Ali Abbas, respectfully represents to the Court that:

1. On November 7, 1991, Movant was licensed by the Court to practice law in the State of Illinois.
2. Movant desires to have his name stricken from the Roll of Attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 762(a).

WHEREFORE, the undersigned requests that his name be stricken from the Roll of Attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois.

  
Hassan Ali Abbas

DATE: February 11, 2026

4920-5097-5628, v. 1

FILED

February 24, 2026

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2/24/2026 10:45 AM  
CYNTHIA A. GRANT  
SUPREME COURT CLERK

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

In the Matter of:

HASSAN ALI ABBAS,

Movant,

No. 6206474.

Supreme Court No. M.R.

Commission No. 2022PR00083

STATEMENT OF CHARGES  
PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a)

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, by her attorney, Richard Gleason, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(a), states that on the date Movant, Hassan Ali Abbas (hereinafter "Movant"), filed a motion requesting that his name be stricken from the Roll of Attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois, a one-count complaint was pending before the Hearing Board charging Movant with the conduct that formed the basis for Movant's 2022 conviction in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, for the crimes of wire fraud and money laundering conspiracy in the matter of *United States of America v. Hassan Abbas*, case number 1:20-cr-10016-LTS. Had Movant's conduct been the subject of a hearing, the evidence described below would clearly and convincingly establish the following facts and conclusions of misconduct:

## I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Movant's admissions, records from various courts, including the October 28, 2022 judgment of conviction entered in case number 1:20-cr-10016-LTS, affirmed in part on April 29, 2024 by the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, the August 19, 2024 amended judgment of conviction entered in case number 1:20-cr-10016-LTS, and the testimony of other witnesses would have established the following facts:

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1. Movant was licensed to practice law in Illinois on November 7, 1991. On January 24, 2023, this Court suspended Movant on an interim basis upon the Administrator's petition pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 761, and Movant remains suspended from the practice of law pursuant to that order. (*In re Abbas*, M.R. 031505, 2022PR00083 (Jan. 24, 2023)) Movant is currently incarcerated in the Federal Correctional Center at Yazoo City, Mississippi, serving the balance of the 87-month prison sentence imposed by the Honorable Leo T. Sorokin following Movant's May 2022 jury trial and conviction.

2. On October 21, 2021, a federal grand jury in the District of Massachusetts charged Movant in a six-count criminal indictment with the offenses of wire fraud, money laundering, unlawful monetary transactions, and money laundering conspiracy. The matter was captioned *United States of America v. Hassan Abbas*, docket number 1:20-cr-10016-LTS, and assigned to Judge Sorokin.

3. The October 21, 2021 indictment alleged that "romance scams" refer to a type of fraud that is enabled by the creation of fictitious profiles on online dating or social websites, and that individuals perpetuating romance scams use these online dating profiles to gain the trust of potential victims, and once that trust is gained, direct victims to transfer money under false pretenses. A common narrative used to trick victims into a romance scam is to convince the victim to wire funds to cover "taxes" on nonexistent money that is to be "transferred" into their account.

4. The indictment alleged that "business email compromises" ("BECs") refer to a type of fraud targeting companies that conduct wire transfers. In a BEC scam, individuals send email messages that appear to come from a colleague, vendor, or business associate making a legitimate request when, in reality, the email messages are from individuals perpetrating fraud.

5. The indictment alleged that both romance scams and BECs frequently employ the use of “spoofed” emails that appear to originate from legitimate businesses or banking institutions. In reality, however, emails that scammers use are slight variations on the true email addresses, and the victims are actually communicating with the bad actors that are running the scheme.

6. Movant was a Belgian and Lebanese national living in the United States who maintained several personal checking accounts, including an account at PNC Bank and an account at TD Bank. Phoenicia Trust, Ltd. (“Phoenicia Trust”) was a shell corporation incorporated in Illinois on or about July 7, 2017, and Movant was Phoenicia Trust’s President and the only authorized signer on its corporate bank accounts, including a business checking account at PNC Bank, a business checking account at Wells Fargo Bank, and a business checking account at Citibank.

7. Sparta Gijon, Inc. (“Sparta”) was a shell corporation, incorporated in California on or about December 11, 2017. Sparta maintained a checking account at U.S. Bank for which Movant was the only signer. Midamines Sprl, Ltd (“Midamines”) was a shell corporation, incorporated in Illinois on or about September 26, 2012. Movant was the company’s President and Secretary. Midamines maintained a business checking account at JP Morgan for which Movant was the only authorized signer. Katchi, Inc. (“Katchi”) was a shell corporation, incorporated in Illinois on or about November 29, 2017. Movant was Katchi’s President. Katchi maintained a business checking account at First Midwest Bank for which Movant was the only authorized signer.

8. Beginning at least in or around June 2017 and continuing through on or about January 9, 2019, Movant devised and executed a scheme to defraud and for obtaining money from victims using romance, BEC, and other scams to deceive the victims into wiring funds to various bank accounts controlled by Movant, described in paragraphs six and seven, above. As part of the

scheme, Movant opened and maintained bank accounts in the names of companies with little or no legitimate business operations, and then used those accounts to receive victims' funds. Once the victim sent the funds, Movant generally wired the funds to personal accounts he controlled or to foreign corporations. The victims were targeted through romance scams, BECs, and other fraudulent communications, and were deceived into transferring money to the sham corporations' bank accounts by use of the "spoofed" emails.

9. Count One of the indictment alleged that Movant committed the offense of wire fraud in violation of 18 United States Code Section 1343 when he used wire communications to obtain \$30,427 from individuals with the initials "M.L." and "P.S." by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

10. Count Two of the indictment alleged that Movant committed the offense of wire fraud in violation of 18 United States Code Section 1343 when he used wire communications to obtain \$100,000 from an individual with the initials "E.F." by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

11. Count Six of the indictment alleged that Movant committed the offense of money laundering conspiracy in violation of 18 United States Code Section 1956(h) when, between June 2017 through January 2019, he sent bank wires knowing that the funds involved were proceeds of unlawful activity, and knowing that the transactions were designed to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of that unlawful activity.

12. Between May 3, 2022 and May 16, 2022, a jury trial was held in *United States of America v. Hassan Abbas*. On May 16, 2022, the jury returned a verdict against Movant on counts one, two, three, four, five, and six of the indictment, finding Movant guilty of two counts of wire fraud (counts one and two) in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343; one count

of money laundering (count three) in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(i); two counts of unlawful monetary transactions (counts four and five) in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957; and one count of money laundering conspiracy (count six) in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

13. On October 28, 2022, Judge Sorokin imposed judgment (which was then entered on November 1, 2022) in case number 1:20-cr-10016 adjudicating Movant guilty of wire fraud, money laundering, unlawful monetary transactions, and money laundering conspiracy in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, 1956(a)(1)(i), (1957), and (1956(h)) as alleged in counts one through six of the criminal indictment. On that date, Judge Sorokin sentenced Movant to be imprisoned for 108 months, to be followed by a three-year term of supervised release subject to conditions, including that Movant pay \$2,001,853.68 in restitution.

14. On November 9, 2022, Movant filed a notice of appeal of his criminal conviction with the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and his appeal was assigned docket number 22-1864. On April 29, 2024, the Court of Appeals affirmed Movant's criminal conviction in part, and vacated it in part. The Court of Appeals rejected Movant's challenges to the sufficiency and admissibility of evidence with respect to counts one (wire fraud), two (wire fraud), and six (money laundering conspiracy) and affirmed those convictions. The Court of Appeals also vacated Movant's convictions on counts three (money laundering), four (unlawful monetary transactions), and five (unlawful monetary transactions) on the grounds that the charges had been brought in an improper venue, dismissed those charges without prejudice, and remanded the case to Judge Sorokin for further proceedings.

15. On August 19, 2024, Judge Sorokin resentenced Movant in case 1:20-CR-10016 and imposed an amended judgment of conviction on counts one (wire fraud), two (wire fraud), and

six (money laundering conspiracy). Judge Sorokin sentenced Movant to a term of imprisonment of 87 months, to be followed by a three-year period of supervised release, and ordered Movant to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,001,853.68.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF MISCONDUCT

16. As a result of the conduct that resulted in the entry of the judgment described in paragraph 15, above, Movant has engaged in the following misconduct:

- a. committing criminal acts that reflect adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects, by conduct including committing the offenses of wire fraud and money laundering conspiracy in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 1956(h), respectively, in violation of Rule 8.4(b) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010); and
- b. engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, by conduct including committing the offenses of wire fraud and money laundering conspiracy in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 1956(h), respectively, in violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010).

Respectfully submitted,

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator  
Attorney Registration and  
Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Richard Gleason  
Richard Gleason

Richard Gleason  
Counsel for the Administrator  
130 East Randolph Drive, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6219  
Telephone: (312) 565-2600  
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4930-1664-8076, v. 2

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In the Matter of:

HASSAN ALI ABBAS,

Attorney-Movant,

No. 6206474.

Supreme Court No. M.R.

Commission No. 2022PR00083

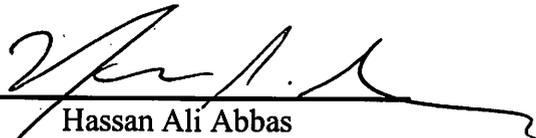
AFFIDAVIT

Hassan Ali Abbas, being first duly sworn, on oath states that:

1. Affiant has signed a motion to strike his name from the Roll of Attorneys admitted to practice law in Illinois, pursuant to Rule 762(a).
2. Affiant has received from the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission a copy of the Statement of Charges pending against him.
3. Affiant stipulates that if the charges set forth in the Statement of Charges proceeded to hearing, the judgment of conviction would be offered into evidence and would constitute conclusive evidence of his guilt of the crime for purposes of disciplinary proceedings.
4. Affiant's motion to strike his name from the Roll of Attorneys admitted to practice in Illinois is freely and voluntarily made.
5. Affiant understands the nature and consequences of said motion.

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

February 11, 2026  
Date

  
Hassan Ali Abbas

4925-8391-4380, v. 1

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HASSAN ALI ABBAS,

Movant,

No. 6206474.

Supreme Court No. M.R.

Commission No. 2022PR00083

NOTICE OF FILING

TO: Hassan Ali Abbas, ID#00985-509  
Movant  
FCI Yazoo City, Low II  
P.O. Box 5000  
Yazoo City, MS 39194

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on February 24, 2026, electronic copies of Movant's MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a), Administrator's STATEMENT OF CHARGES and Movant's AFFIDAVIT, were submitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court for filing. On that same date, a copy was served on Movant, by causing said copies to be deposited in the U.S. Mailbox located at One Prudential Plaza, 130 East Randolph Drive, Chicago, Illinois, with first-class postage prepaid, at or before 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator  
Attorney Registration and  
Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Richard Gleason  
Richard Gleason

Richard Gleason  
Counsel for Administrator  
130 East Randolph Drive, Suite 1500  
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PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an attorney, hereby certifies, pursuant to the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/109, that the Administrator served copies of the Notice of Filing, Movant's MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a), Administrator's STATEMENT OF CHARGES PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a) and Movant's AFFIDAVIT, on the individual on the forgoing Notice of Filing, by regular mail, proper postage prepaid, by causing the same to be deposited in the U.S. Mailbox located at One Prudential Plaza, 130 East Randolph Drive, Suite 1500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 on February 24, 2026 at or before 5:00 p.m.

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

/s/ Richard Gleason

Richard Gleason

4911-9912-7697, v. 1

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