

 ORIGINAL

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01/30/2024

Bowen Greenwood
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: PR 24-0043

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

PR 24-0043

FILED

JAN 30 2024

Bowen Greenwood
Clerk of Supreme Court
State of Montana

ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF
KATHERINE A. PROCTOR,

An Attorney at Law,

Respondent

Following a jury trial held on December 5 through December 15, 2022, Montana attorney Katherine A. Proctor was found guilty of Assault on a Minor, a felony, in the First Judicial District Court, Lewis and Clerk County, Cause No. CDC-2022-30. On June 9, 2023, the court sentenced her to Montana State Prison for 20 years, with no time suspended, and credit for 126 days served.

On January 19, 2024, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) petitioned this Court, pursuant to Montana Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement 23B, for a determination as to whether Proctor should be suspended from the practice of law pending formal disciplinary proceedings.

MRLDE 23B calls for a lawyer's "immediate suspension" from the practice of law pending formal complaint proceedings if this Court determines that the lawyer "was found guilty of a criminal offense that affects the lawyer's ability to practice law." This Court's practice has been to invoke interim suspension under MRLDE 23 when, as here, a lawyer has been convicted of a felony offense. We conclude that Proctor's felony conviction for assault on a minor affects her ability to practice law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Katherine A. Proctor is placed on interim suspension from the practice of law in Montana, effective immediately and pending final

disposition of a disciplinary proceeding predicated on her felony conviction, pursuant to MRLDE 23B.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that ODC is directed to promptly prepare and file a formal complaint with the Commission on Practice based upon these convictions.

The Clerk of this Court is directed to serve a copy of this Order of Discipline upon Katherine A. Proctor, and to provide copies to Disciplinary Counsel; the Office Administrator for the Commission on Practice; the Clerks of all the District Courts of the State of Montana; each District Judge in the State of Montana; the Clerk of the Federal District Court for the District of Montana; the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit; and the Executive Director of the State Bar of Montana.

DATED this 30th day of January, 2024.



Chief Justice













Justices