

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER  
DISCIPLINE REPORT  
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ON  
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE

SEPTEMBER 2016

**Disciplinary Sanctions**  
**6/1/2016 - 8/31/2016**

DISBARMENTS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Dunn, Richard Bradley	6	2
Grimaldo, Arthur Jr.	14	2
Herrick, John David	10	9
Jaramillo, Richard C.	6	6
Jaramillo, Richard C.	6	1

**Board of Disciplinary Appeals:**

Brasseaux, Malcolm	BODA	1
Cantu, Martin Jr.	BODA	1
Sepcich, Michael Stephen	BODA	1
Total:	8	23

RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Aninao, V. Antonio	4	2
Guerrero, Jose M.	10	3
Jackson, Nancy	7	14
Lorenzana, Elias V. Jr.	9	10
Martinez, Alicia R.	10	6
Tome, Christopher J.	8	1
Total:	6	36

SUSPENSIONS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Alamia, Richard R.	12	1
Brown, Daniel Lucius	10	1
Canady, Jeremiah David	4	3
Courtade, Arthur David	7	1
Denena, Frank A. II	6	1
Desmarais, Norman A. Jr.	3	1
Hamner, Brian Anthony	10	3
Hulett, William Eric	6	2
Hulett, William Eric	1	1
Hulett, William Eric	6	1
Hulett, William Eric	6	1
Hunsicker, Jana L.	8	2
Jaramillo, Richard C.	6	1

Jones, Robert M.	6	1
Knight, David W.	14	1
Knight, David W.	14	1
Lipshy, Bruce A.	9	1
McGuire, Frederick L.	4	1
Mitchell, James L.	10	2
Morsi, Tamer Farouk	10	2
O'Briant, James Michael	16	1
Perez, Refugio Rafael	11	1
San Miguel, Jo Ann	15	1
Sandoval, Daniel Armando	10	6
Sarfo, Samuel Adjei	9	1
Weaver, Sydney Marmion	15	1
Williams, Paul Kobbe	16	1

**Board of Disciplinary Appeals:**

Kang, Stephen Young	BODA	1
Landau, Byron L.	BODA	1
Lanier, Patrick	BODA	1
Messer, Marlon Brent	BODA	1
Tinder, John William II	BODA	1
Total:		32
		45

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Eaton, Michael W. W.	7	1
Eaton, Travis Aaron	4	1
Guidry, Donald James	6	1
Hamlett, Laurie Ray	7	1
Norcross, Chad Aubrey	1	1
Sanchez, Zenaida	11	1
Shelsy, Marshall A.	4	1
Total:		7

**PRIVATE REPRIMANDS**

Grievance Comm.	# of Sanctions	# of Complaints Resolved
1	1	1
2	1	1
3	1	1
4	5	5

6	3	3
9	1	1
10	2	2
11	2	5
13	1	3
15	1	1
16	1	1

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Total:	19	24
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Grievance Referral Program	8	8
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Grand Total:	80	143

### Disciplinary Actions - Current Bar Year

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2016-2017		
DISBARMENTS	8	23
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	6	36
SUSPENSIONS	32	45
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	7	7
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	19	24
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	8	8
Total:	80	143

\*does not reflect year-end figures

### Disciplinary Actions - Previous Bar Year

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2015-2016		
DISBARMENTS	22	57
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	27	146
SUSPENSIONS	135	210
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	30	33
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	67	72
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	47	47
Total:	328	565

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2014-2015		
DISBARMENTS	27	50
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	19	55
SUSPENSIONS	113	148
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	32	36
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	66	72
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	64	72
Total:	321	433

BAR YEARS 2013-2014	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	22	41
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	17	57
SUSPENSIONS	130	169
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	31	35
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	63	70
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	57	57
Total:	320	429

BAR YEARS 2012-2013	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	39	51
RESIGNATIONS	24	46
SUSPENSIONS	122	160
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	37	40
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	89	91
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	56	56
Total:	367	444

BAR YEARS 2011-2012	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	38	45
RESIGNATIONS	27	87
SUSPENSIONS	137	174
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	40	41
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	106	115
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	54	54
Total:	402	516

BAR YEARS 2010-2011	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	28	52
RESIGNATIONS	23	101
SUSPENSIONS	157	254
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	40	50
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	77	82
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	46	46
Total:	371	584

BAR YEARS 2009-2010	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	25	33
RESIGNATIONS	22	40
SUSPENSIONS	111	169
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	37	47
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	81	89
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	39	39
Total:	315	417

BAR YEARS 2008-2009	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	32	43
RESIGNATIONS	26	104
SUSPENSIONS	127	189
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	46	54
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	68	73
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	36	36
Total:	335	499

BAR YEARS 2007-2008	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	24	63
RESIGNATIONS	24	90
SUSPENSIONS	121	224
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	28	35
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	69	73
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	33	33
Total:	299	518

BAR YEARS 2006-2007	Total Sanctions
DISBARMENTS	30
RESIGNATIONS	31
SUSPENSIONS	110
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	62
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	87
Total:	320

DISTRICT 1:

**Dallas Attorney**

**8/4/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.01(b)(1)

for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer

RULE 1.03(a)

for failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information

**Norcross, Chad Aubrey: #24039513**

**8/11/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On August 11, 2016, **Chad Aubrey Norcross** [#24039513], 49, of McKinney, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that Norcross was hired to represent Complainant in a civil matter. Norcross failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of his civil matter and failed to comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant.

Norcross violated Rule 1.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$3,100.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 2:

**Dallas Attorney**

**7/11/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.03(a)

for failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information

DISTRICT 3:

**Desmarais, Norman A. Jr.: #00795925**

**5/3/2016-Default Fully Probated Suspension**

On May 3, 2016, **Norman A. Desmarais, Jr.** [#00795925], 66, of Nederland, received a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that Desmarais neglected his client's legal matter and, upon termination of his representation, failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Desmarais further failed to respond to the grievance.

Desmarais violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). Desmarais was ordered to pay \$350.00 in restitution and \$1,520.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.



**Houston Attorney**  
**7/12/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.15(d)

for failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property which belongs to the client

DISTRICT 4:

**Aninao, V. Antonio: #O1264500**  
**08/31/2016-Resignation in Lieu of Disciplinary**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **V. Antonio Aninao** [#01264500], 63, of Houston. At the time of Aninao's resignation, Aninao had two grievances pending against him. In one instance, upon termination of representation, Aninao failed to take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect his client's interests. Aninao also violated three disciplinary judgments and failed to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Aninao violated Rules 1.55(d), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(8).

**Canady, Jeremiah David: #24055254**  
**7/25/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension**  
**10/01/2016-03/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**04/01/2017-09/30/2018: PROBATED**

On July 25, 2016, **Jeremiah David Canady** [#24055254], 36, of Houston, accepted a two-year partially probated suspension effective October 1, 2016, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that in three separate matters Canady neglected the legal matter entrusted to him, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed, upon termination, to refund advance payments of fees that had not been earned.

Canady violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$3,268.00 in restitution and \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Houston Attorney**  
**8/15/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.03(a)

for failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information

**Eaton, Travis Aaron: #24080870**  
**5/6/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On May 6, 2016, **Travis A. Eaton** [#24080870], 30, of Houston, received a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Eaton neglected a legal matter and, upon termination of his representation, failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned.

Eaton violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$2,500.00 in restitution and \$1,450.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Houston Attorney  
8/7/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.03(b)

for failing to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation

**Houston Attorney  
07/19/2016- Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 8.04(a)(8)

for failing to timely furnish a district grievance committee a response or other information as required unless he/she timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so

**McGuire, Frederick L.: #24001190  
06/22/2016-Fully Probated Suspension  
03/01/2016-05/31/2018: PROBATED**

On June 22, 2016, **Frederick L. McGuire** [#24001190], 37, of Houston, accepted a 15-month, fully probated suspension, effective March 1, 2017. The 164<sup>th</sup> District Court of Harris County found that McGuire violated Rule 1.04(f) [arranged for a division of fee between lawyers not in the same firm without obtaining the client's written consent], and Rule 1.04(g) [sought fees beyond the value of the services provided when a referral was not made in compliance with 1.04(f)].

McGuire was ordered to pay \$1,930.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**San Antonio Attorney  
08/30/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.14(c)

for failing to keep funds or other property in which both the lawyer and another person claim interests separate until there is an accounting and severance of their interests

**Shelsy, Marshall A.: #18196300  
6/16/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On June 16, 2016, **Marshall A. Shelsy** [#18196300], 65, of Houston, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Shelsy engaged in conduct constituting obstruction of justice.

Shelsy violated Rule 8.04(a)(4). He was ordered to pay \$500.00 in attorneys' fees.

**Houston Attorney**  
**5/20/2016- Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.15(d)

for failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property which belongs to the client.

DISTRICT 6:

**Dallas Attorney**  
**7/14/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.01(b)(1)

for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer

**Denena, Frank A. II: #00785815**  
**6/13/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**06/09/2016-12/08/2016: SUSPENSION**  
**12/09/2016-06/08/2018: PROBATED**

On June 13, 2016, **Frank A. Denena, II** [#00785815], 57, of Franklin, received a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective June 9, 2016, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Denena neglected Complainant's family law matter. In addition, he failed to keep the Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her legal matter and respond to her reasonable requests for information. Upon termination of the representation, Denena failed to refund any advance payments of fees that had not been earned.

Denena violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$2,713.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$2,750.00 in restitution.

**Dunn, Richard Bradley: #24049543**  
**6/7/2016-Disbarment**

On June 7, 2016, **Richard Bradley Dunn** [#24049543], 41, of Dallas, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that after complaints were filed against Dunn by two former clients in unrelated legal matters, Dunn failed to timely furnish a response or other information, with regard to each complaint, to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Dunn did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for his failure to do so in either matter.

Dunn violated Rule 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$4,272.50 for attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Guidry, Donald James: #24057878**  
**8/26/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On August 26, 2016, **Donald James Guidry** [#24057878], 44, of Richardson, agreed to a public reprimand. The 160th District Court of Dallas County found that the parties agreed that Guidry committed Professional Misconduct by violating Rules I .06(a) [A lawyer shall not represent opposing parties to the same litigation] and 8.04(a)(3) [A lawyer shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation].

Guidry was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$750.00 and restitution in the sum of \$10,000.00.

**Hulett, William Eric: #00796797**  
**5/11/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**06/01/2016-07/31/2016: SUSPENSION**  
**08/01/2016-05/31/2017: PROBATED**

On May 11, 2016, **William Eric Hulett** [#00796797], 50, of Dallas, received a 12-month, partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016, with the first two months actively served and the remainder probated.

An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in her divorce proceeding, Hulett failed to promptly render a full accounting of Complainant's retainer funds as requested by Complainant. Upon termination of representation, Hulett failed to refund advanced payment to Complainant of a fee that had not been earned.

Hulett violated Rules 1.14(b) and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$3,000.00 and \$1,300.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Hulett, William Eric: #00796797**  
**6/17/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**08/01/2016-05/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**06/01/2017-07/31/2018: PROBATED**

On June 7, 2016, **William Eric Hulett** [#00796797], 50, of Dallas, received a 24-month, partially probated suspension, with 10 months active (August 1, 2016, through May 31, 2017) and 14 months probated (June 1, 2017, through July 31, 2018). An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing a client in her divorce proceeding, Hulett neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Hulett failed to keep clients reasonably informed about the status of their divorce proceedings and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from his clients. Upon termination of representation, Hulett failed to refund an advanced payment to a client of a fee that had not been earned. Hulett further failed to timely furnish his responses to the grievances filed with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office. He did not in good faith assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

Hulett violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,600.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$1,500.00 in restitution.

**Hulett, William Eric: #00796797**  
**7/19/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension**  
**08/01/2016-05/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**06/01/2017-07/31/2018: PROBATED**

On July 19, 2016, **William Eric Hulett** [#00796797], 51, of Dallas, agreed to a 24-month, partially probated suspension, effective August 1, 2016, with the first ten months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in her divorce proceeding, Hulett failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant. Hulett further failed to timely furnish his response to the grievance filed with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office. He did not in good faith assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

Hulett violated Rules 1.03(a) and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,400.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Hulett, William Eric: #00796797**  
**7/29/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension**  
**08/01/2016-05/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**06/01/2017-07/31/2018: PROBATED**

On July 29, 2016, **William Eric Hulett** [#00796797], 51, of Dallas, agreed to a 24-month, partially probated suspension, effective August 1, 2016, with the first ten months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in his divorce proceeding, Hulett neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Furthermore, Hulett failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of his legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant. Upon termination of representation, Hulett failed to refund advanced payment to Complainant of a fee that had not been earned. Hulett further failed to timely furnish his response to the grievance filed with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office. He did not in good faith assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

Hulett violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$5,000.00 in restitution and \$225.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses

**Jaramillo, Richard C.: #10573200**  
**6/17/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**07/01/2016-06/30/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**07/01/2017-06/30/2019: PROBATED**

On June 7, 2016, **Richard C. Jaramillo** [#10573200], 69, of Dallas, received a three-year, partially probated suspension, effective July 1, 2016, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found in representing Complainant, Jaramillo failed to notify the Complainant about his receipt of her settlement check. In addition, he failed to safeguard the Complainant's settlement funds by keeping them separate from his own funds and depositing and maintaining them in a trust account.

Jaramillo violated Rules 1.14(a), and 1.14(b). He was ordered to pay \$2,357.50 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Jaramillo, Richard C.: #10573200**  
**6/2/2016-Default Disbarment**

On June 2, 2016, **Richard C. Jaramillo** [#10573200], 69, of Dallas, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that on January 28, 2014, Complainant hired Jaramillo to represent her in a personal injury matter. Jaramillo failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her personal injury matter. Jaramillo failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant about her personal injury matter. Jaramillo failed to hold funds belonging in whole or in part to Complainant that were in Jaramillo's possession in connection with the representation separate from Jaramillo's own property. Jaramillo failed to keep Complainant's funds in a separate trust account. Upon receiving funds in which Complainant and her medical providers had an interest, Jaramillo failed to promptly notify Complainant and her medical providers. Jaramillo failed to promptly deliver to Complainant and her medical providers funds that they were entitled to receive. Jaramillo engaged conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation when he knowingly failed to properly disburse the appropriate portion of the settlement check to Complainant and her medical providers.

Jaramillo violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b) and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$115,000.00 in restitution and \$2,618.75 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Jaramillo, Richard C.: #10573200**  
**07/08/2016-Disbarment**

On July 8, 2016, **Richard C. Jaramillo** [#10573200], 69, of Dallas, was disbarred. The 193rd Judicial District Court, Dallas County, found that Jaramillo failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of her legal matter and comply with her reasonable requests for information, failed to notify his client about his receipt of her settlement funds, failed to promptly disburse to his client that portion of the settlement funds to which she was entitled, and that he engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Finally, in conjunction with the investigation of his client's grievance, Jaramillo failed to respond to a lawful demand for information.

Jaramillo violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 8.01(b) and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$28,835.87 in restitution and \$2,037.88 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses

**Jones, Robert M.: #10951000**  
**7/1/2016-Active Suspension**  
**03/01/2018-02/28/2021: SUSPENSION**

On July 1, 2016, **Robert M. Jones** [#10951000], 71, of Duncanville, received a three-year, active suspension, beginning March 1, 2018 and ending February 28, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Jones failed to keep fees paid to him for representation of a client in a separate trust account. On February 13, 2014, Jones was actively suspended from the practice of law for one year beginning February 11, 2014, and ending February 10, 2015. After accepting and agreeing to the Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension, Jones appeared in the US District Court for the Northern District of Texas on behalf of a client while he was actively suspended. He further accepted attorneys' fees for representation on a separate matter in Dallas County while under the same suspension. Jones violated a disciplinary judgment by engaging in the practice of law while actively suspended.

Jones violated Rules 1.14(a), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(1 I). He was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$1,450.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Dallas Attorney**  
**7/15/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 8.04(a)(3)  
for engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation

**Dallas Attorney**  
**6/15/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.01(b)(I)  
for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer

DISTRICT 7:

**Courtade, Arthur David: #04891000**  
**6/20/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**06/15/2016-12/14/2016: PROBATED**

On June 20, 2016, **Arthur David Courtade** [#04891000], 69, of Fort Worth, agreed to a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 15, 2016. An evidentiary panel of the District 7 Grievance Committee found that Courtade appeared for a District Court hearing in Louisiana on behalf of a client without having a license to practice law in Louisiana or obtaining permission to appear in court pro hac vice.

Courtade violated Rule 5.05(a). He was ordered to pay \$1,140.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses

**Eaton, Michael W. W.: #06383800**  
**8/9/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On August 9, 2016, **Michael W. Eaton** [#06383800], 58, of London, England, agreed to a public reprimand. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that Eaton, in communicating with an opposing party, Complainant, in a divorce matter, used means that had no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person, or use methods of obtaining evidence that violate the legal rights of such person.

Eaton violated Rule 4.04(a). He was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$1,000.00.

**Hamlett, Laurie Ray: #08849500**  
**3/30/2016-Public Reprimand**

On March 30, 2016, **Laurie Ray Hamlett** [#08849500], 66, of Waxahachie, received a public reprimand. The 40th District Court of Ellis County found that Hamlett committed Professional Misconduct by violating Rules 3.01 [A lawyer shall not bring or defend a proceeding, or assert or controvert an issue therein, unless the lawyer reasonably believes that there is a basis for doing so that is not frivolous], 3.02 [In the course of litigation, a lawyer shall not take a position that unreasonably increases the costs or other burdens of the case or that unreasonably delays resolution of the matter], and 8.02(a) [A lawyer shall not make a statement that the lawyer knows to be false or with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the qualifications or integrity of a judge, adjudicatory official or public legal officer, or of a candidate for election or appointment to judicial or legal office]. Hamlett filed a notice of appeal on June 21, 2016.

**Jackson, Nancy: #24004717**  
**08/31/2016-Resignation in lieu Discipline**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation in lieu of discipline of **Nancy Jackson** [#24004717], 45, of Colleyville, Texas.

At the time of Jackson's resignation, there were fourteen (14) pending matters against her that alleged neglect of legal matters; failure to keep clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matters; failure to promptly

comply with reasonable requests for information from clients about their legal matters; failure to promptly deliver to clients funds that clients were entitled to receive; engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation and failure to respond to grievances.

Alleged Rules Violated: 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(8)

DISTRICT 8:

**Hunsicker, Jana L.: #24000244**  
**6/1/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**06/01/2016-11/30/2017: PROBATED**

On June 1, 2016, **Jana L. Hunsicker** [#24000244], 51, of Georgetown, Texas, accepted an 18-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016. An evidentiary panel of the District 8 Grievance Committee found that Hunsicker was lead prosecutor in a capital murder case. The State provided defense counsel with a DVD containing surveillance footage from the crime scene. The defense requested a time-stamps version of the DVD, but Hunsicker represented that the DVD did not contain time stamps. Later, during trial, the State played the DVD for the jury with a type of player that was able to display the time stamps. The defense objected and the trial court granted a mistrial. In his later Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the judge found that Hunsicker "affirmatively stated to the Defense that a time-stamps copy of the video did not exist and did not correct that statement when she learned otherwise." Hunsicker disputed the correctness of those findings, and the State contended that the timestamps were inculpatory, not exculpatory, of Defendant.

On April 9, 2015, the court signed a written gag order in the case. On May 6, 2015, Hunsicker sent an email to the trial judge informing him that she intended to make statements to the Austin American Statesman defending her actions in the case. Thereafter, in violation of the gag order, Hunsicker made statements about the case to the Austin American Statesman which were published in an article on May 7, 2015. The defense filed an Application for Pre-Trial Writ of Habeas Corpus. The trial court held a hearing with live testimony and entered findings of fact and conclusions of law. Hunsicker filed written objections to the findings of fact and conclusions of law wherein she stated that the judge had improperly sealed his own divorce case to protect his political career. She further accused the judge of lying in the fact findings and stated that if he refused to correct the lies, she would seek sanctions against him with the Commission on Judicial Conduct and investigate him for aggravated perjury.

Hunsicker violated Rule 4.01 (a), 3.04(d), 8.02(a), and 8.04(a)(3). She was ordered to pay \$3,250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and to complete six additional hours of CLE in the area of ethics.

**Tome, Christopher J.: #20117000**  
**08/31/2016-Resignation in lieu of Discipline**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Christopher J. Tome** [#201 17000], 65, of Temple, Texas. At the time of Tome's resignation, a disciplinary matter was pending against him. Tome was hired to handle the purchase of property on behalf of Complainant. Tome was given \$72,000 to place in escrow, \$12,000 of which was to go to the seller and the balance was to be used to pay off the existing mortgage and to cover Tome's legal fees. Tome did not pay off the existing mortgage. Later, foreclosure proceedings were initiated against the seller, wherein the bank effectively sought to evict Complainant from his home. Complainant notified Tome of the legal action against the seller. Tome filed an application for temporary restraining order and was granted same by the court. Thereafter, despite being noticed for various hearings in the foreclosure case, Tome performed no further legal work and failed to respond to Complainant's repeated attempts to communicate with him about the status of the case. The home was foreclosed upon and Complainant had to move out of the home. Tome further failed to furnish a written response to the complaint as directed.

Tome violated Rules 1.01 (b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 1.14(c), and 8.04(a)(8).



DISTRICT 9:

**Austin Attorney**

**6/29/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 8.04(a)(1)

for violating these Rules, knowingly assisting or inducing another to do so, or doing so through the acts of another, whether or not such violation occurred in the course of a client-lawyer relationship

RULE 8.04(a)(11)

for engaging in the practice of law when the lawyer is on inactive status or when the lawyer's right to practice has been suspended or terminated, including but not limited to situations where a lawyer's right to practice has been administratively suspended for failure to timely pay required fees or assessments or for failure to comply with Article XII of the STATE BAR RULES relating to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

**Lipshy, Bruce A.: #12413000**

**08/30/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**

**04/01/2017-03/31/2018: PROBATED**

On August 30, 2016, **Bruce A. Lipshy** [#12413000], 74, of Austin, received an Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension [04/01/17–03/13/2018]. The 345th District Court of Travis County found that Lipshy violated Rule 1.14(c) for disbursing funds to persons not entitled to receive them. Lipshy was ordered to pay \$3,358.31 in attorney's fees and costs.

**Lorenzana, Jr., Elias V.: #00794191**

**08/31/2016-Resignation in lieu of Discipline**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Elias V. Lorenzana, Jr.**, [#00794191], 49, of Round Rock, Texas. At the time of Lorenzana's resignation, ten disciplinary cases were pending against him.

Lorenzana neglected his clients' legal matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed about the status of a matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. He failed to properly maintain funds in his trust account and represented a client when the representation reasonably appeared to be limited by his own interests. Lorenzana failed to return unearned fees and disclosed confidential information to a prohibited person. He shared legal fees with a non-lawyer and formed a partnership with a non-lawyer when the activities of the partnership consisted of the practice of law. He further practiced in the form of a professional association authorized to practice law when a non-lawyer owned an interest therein and was a corporate director or officer thereof. Lorenzana repeatedly failed to timely furnish a written response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office. Lorenzana violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.06(b)(2), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.05(b)(1)(ii), 1.15(d), 5.04(a), 5.04(b), 5.04(d)(1), 5.04(d)(2), 8.04(a)(1) and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

**Sarfo, Samuel Adjei: #24071896**  
**8/17/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**10/01/2016-10/16/2016: SUSPENSION**  
**10/01/2016-10/16/2016: SUSPENSION**

On August 17, 2016, **Samuel Adjei Sarfo** [#24071896], 53, of Austin, received a Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension [Active: 10/01/2016 – 10/16/2016; Probated: 10/16/2016 – 10/01/2017]. The 98th District Court of Travis County found that Sarfo violated Rules 1.01(a) [a lawyer shall not accept or continue employment in a legal matter which the lawyer knows or should know is beyond the lawyer's competence] and Rule 1.01 (b)(1) [in representing a client, a lawyer shall not frequently fail to carry out completely the obligations that the lawyer owes to a client or clients]. Sarfo was ordered to pay \$15,000 in attorney's fees and costs. Sarfo has filed a Notice of Appeal.

DISTRICT 10:

**Brown, Daniel Lucius: #03108300**  
**8/1/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**08/01/2016-01/31/2017: PROBATED**

On August 1, 2016, **Daniel Lucius Brown** [#03108300], 62, of San Antonio, accepted a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective August 1, 2016. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Brown failed to keep client reasonably informed and failed to promptly deliver funds and render a complete accounting of funds when requested.

Brown violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), and 1.14(b) and was ordered to pay \$14,312.50 in restitution and \$2,400.00 attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**San Antonio Attorney**  
**6/9/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.14(b)

for failing, upon receiving funds or other property in which a client or third person has an interest, to promptly notify the client or third person and render a full accounting upon request

**Guerrero, Jose M.: #08581425**  
**08/31/2016-Resignation in lieu of Discipline**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Jose M. Guerrero** [#08581425], 61, of San Antonio. At the time of resignation, there were three disciplinary actions pending alleging Guerrero failed to communicate with clients, neglected client matters, failed to hold client funds in trust, failed to return unearned fees, violated prior disciplinary judgments, and participated in conduct involving fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

Guerrero violated Rules 1.01 (b)(1), 1.03(a)(b), 1.14(a)(b), 1.14(c), 1.15(a)(1), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(7) and 8.04(a)(10).

**Hamner, Brian Anthony: #24041050**  
**6/13/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension**  
**09/01/2016-12/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**12/31/2017-08/31/2019: PROBATED**

On June 13, 2016, **Brian Anthony Hamner** [#24041050], 40, of San Antonio, agreed to a three-year, partially probated suspension, with the first sixteen months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Hamner neglected clients' matters, failed to communicate with clients, failed to refund unearned fees, failed to respond to grievances and engaged in the practice of law while his license was suspended.

Hamner violated Rules 1.01(b)(I), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.04(a)(I 1) and was ordered to pay \$2,250.00 in restitution and \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Herrick, John David: #24000478**  
**7/14/2016-Disbarment**

On July 14, 2016, **John David Herrick** [#24000478], 46, of San Antonio, was disbarred. The 57th Judicial District Court of Bexar County found that Herrick committed professional misconduct in violation of Rules 1.01 (a)( 1) [accepting or continuing employment in a legal matter which the lawyer knew or should have known was beyond lawyer's competence], 1.01(b)(2) [failing to carry out completely the obligations owed to a client], 1.03(a) [failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], 1.03(b) [failing to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions], 1.15(d) [failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property that belong to the client] and 8.04(a)(7) [violating any disciplinary or disability order or judgment].

Herrick was ordered to pay \$5,495.01 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**San Antonio Attorney**  
**6/7/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.14(b)

for failing, upon receiving funds or other property in which a client or third person has an interest, to promptly notify the client or third person and render a full accounting upon request

**Martinez, Alicia R.: #24014390**  
**08/31/2016-Resignation in lieu of Discipline**

On August 31, 2016, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Alicia R. Martinez** [#24014390], 48, of San Antonio. At the time of resignation, there were two disciplinary actions pending alleging Martinez failed to communicate with clients, neglected client matters, failed to hold funds in trust, failed to return unearned fees and failed to respond to a grievance.

Martinez violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)(b), 1.14(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(8) and was order to pay \$750.00 in restitution.

**Mitchell, James L.: #14214100**  
**6/28/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**07/0112016-0113112018: PROBATED**

On June 28, 2016, **James L. Mitchell** [#14214100], 64, of San Antonio, accepted an 18-month, fully probated suspension, effective July I, 2016. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Mitchell neglected a client's matter, failed to carry out the obligations owed to a client, failed to keep client reasonably informed and engaged in conduct involving misrepresentation.

Mitchell violated Rules 1.01 (b)(1)&(2), 1.03(a)&(b), and 8.04(a)(3) and was ordered to pay \$1,250.00 in restitution and \$1,800.00 attorney's fees and direct expenses.

**Morsi, Tamer Farouk: #24041530**  
**6/7/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**06/0112016-11130/2016: PROBATED**

On June 7, 2016, **Tamer Farouk Morsi** [#24041530], 43, of San Antonio, accepted a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Morsi neglected client's matters, failed to communicate with clients, failed to refund unearned fees and failed to respond to a grievance.

Morsi violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8) was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and \$1,200.00 in restitution.

**Sandoval, Daniel Armando: #24075521**  
**8/2/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension**  
**08/20/2016-09/19/2016: SUSPENSION**  
**09/20/2016-11119/2018: PROBATED**

On August 2, 2016, **Daniel Armando Sandoval** [#24075521], 35, of San Antonio, agreed to a 27-month, partially probated suspension, effective August 20, 2016, with the first thirty-days actively served and the remainder probated. The District I0 Grievance Committee found that Sandoval neglected client matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed, failed to refund unearned fees and failed to respond to grievances timely.

Sandoval violated Rules 1.01 (b)(1)&(2), 1.03(a), 1.15(d) & 8.04(a)(8) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 11:

**San Antonio Attorney**  
**6/28/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.08(a)

a lawyer shall not enter into a business transaction with a client

RULE 3.08(a)

a lawyer shall not accept or continue employment as an advocate before a tribunal in a contemplated or pending adjudicatory proceeding if the lawyer knows or believes that the lawyer is or may be a witness necessary to establish an essential fact on behalf of the lawyer's client

**San Antonio Attorney  
08/24/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.03(a)

for failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information

**Perez, Refugio Rafael: #24051893  
8/18/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension  
09/01/2016-02/28/2018: PROBATED**

On August 18, 2016, **Refugio Rafael Perez** [#24051893], 38, of Corpus Christi, accepted an 18-month, fully probated suspension, effective September 1, 2016. The District 11 Grievance Committee found that Perez failed to keep the client reasonably informed and failed to respond to the grievance.

Perez violated Rules 1.03(a) and 8.04(a)(8), was ordered to pay \$6,000.00 in restitution and \$1,500.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

**Sanchez, Zenaida: #17573800  
08/25/2016-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On August 25, 2016, **Zenaida Sanchez** [#17573800], 56, of Alice, accepted a judgment of public reprimand. The District 11 Grievance Committee found that Sanchez, failed to communicate with a client.

Sanchez violated Rules 1.03(a) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**DISTRICT 12:**

**Alamia, Richard R.: #00964200  
6/8/2016-Fully Probated Suspension  
07/01/2016-06/30/2017: PROBATED**

On June 8, 2016, **Richard R. Alamia** [#00964200], 69, of Edinburg, received a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2016. The District 12 Grievance Committee found that Alamia neglected a client's matter, failed to keep a client reasonably informed and failed to hold client's funds separate from his own property.

Alamia violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.14(a) and was ordered to pay \$2,500.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 13:

**Dallas Attorney**

**4/5/2016- Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.14(a)

for failing to hold funds and other property belonging in whole or part to clients or third persons in a lawyer's possession separate from the lawyer's own property

RULE 1.15(d)

for failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property which belongs to the client

RULE 8.04(a)(8)

for failing to timely furnish a district grievance committee a response or other information as required unless he/she timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so

DISTRICT 14:

**Grimaldo, Arthur Jr.: #24002186**

**5/13/2016-Disbarment**

On May 13, 2016, **Arthur Grimaldo, Jr.** [#24002186], 48, of Corinth, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that Grimaldo collected investor funds and used the money for his benefit, failed to promptly deliver the funds to his client upon request, failed to keep the funds separate from his own funds, made a false statement of material fact in connection with a disciplinary matter, engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and committed egregious fraud throughout the representation of his client.

Grimaldo was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$199,000.00 and attorneys' fees and direct expenses to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of \$3,368.50. Grimaldo violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.14(c), 8.01(a), and 8.04(a)(3).

**Knight, David W.: #11597325**

**5/6/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**

**06/01/2016-05/31/2017: SUSPENSION**

**06/01/2017-05/31/2018: PROBATED**

On May 6, 2016, **David W. Knight** [# 11597325], 61, of Wichita Falls, received a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that Knight failed to safeguard the advance fee that his client paid him by keeping it in a separate trust or escrow account.

Knight violated Rule 1.14(a). He was ordered to pay \$2,487.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Knight, David W.: #11597325**  
**5/6/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**06/01/2016-05/31/2017: SUSPENSION**  
**06/01/2017-05/31/2018: PROBATED**

On May 6, 2016, **David W. Knight** [#11597325], 61, of Wichita Falls, received a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2016, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that Knight failed to refund the unearned portion of his client's fee and file a response to his client's grievance with the State Bar of Texas.

Knight violated Rules 1.15(d) and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,842.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$2,062.50 in restitution.

DISTRICT 15:

**San Antonio Attorney**  
**7/14/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

RULE 1.15(d)

for failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property which belongs to the client

**San Miguel, Jo Ann: #24039153**  
**6/28/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**07/01/2016-06/30/2018: PROBATED**

On June 28, 2016, **Jo Ann San Miguel** [#24039153], 41, of Lampasas, accepted a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2016. The District 15 Grievance Committee found San Miguel failed to hold funds separate from her own property, failed to promptly deliver funds to a third party, and failed to keep disputed funds in a trust account until dispute was resolved.

San Miguel violated Rules 1.14(a),(b)&(c) and was ordered to pay \$1,250.00 attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Weaver, Sydney Marmion: #00795712**  
**5/9/2016-Partially Probated Suspension**  
**07/01/2016-12/31/2016: SUSPENSION**  
**01/01/2017-06/30/2017: PROBATED**

On May 9, 2016, **Sydney Marmion Weaver** [#00795712], 63, of Odessa, received a 12-month, partially probated suspension, effective July 1, 2016, with the first six months actively served and the remainder probated. The District

15 Grievance Committee found that Weaver neglected a client's matter, failed to keep a client reasonably informed, failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit a client to make informed decisions and failed to respond to the grievance.

Weaver violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)(b), and 8.04(a)(8), and was ordered to pay \$1,920.00 in restitution and \$3,375.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**DISTRICT 16:**

**San Antonio Attorney  
6/28/2016-Agreed Private Reprimand**

**RULE 8.02(a)**

making a statement that the lawyer knew to be false or with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the qualifications or integrity of a judge, adjudicatory official or public legal officer, or of a candidate for election or appointment to judicial or legal office.

**O'Briant, James Michael: #00788875  
6/6/2016-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension  
05/23/2016-11/15/2016: SUSPENSION  
11/15/2016-05/22/2018: PROBATED**

On June 6, 2016, **James O'Briant** [#00788875], 56, of Midland, agreed to a two-year, partially probated suspension, with the first five months and twenty-three days actively served and the remainder probated. The District 16 Grievance Committee found that O'Briant failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions.

O'Briant violated Rule 1.03(b) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Williams, Paul Kobbe: #21566400  
6/10/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension  
05/23/2016-05/22/2017: PROBATED**

On June 10, 2016, **Paul Kobbe Williams** [#21566400], 60, of Midland, accepted a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective May 23, 2016. The District 16 Grievance Committee found that Williams failed to keep a client reasonably informed.

Williams violated Rule 1.03(a) was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees

**BODA:**

**Brasseaux, Malcolm: #02911000  
8/1/2016-Default Disbarment**

On August 1, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a default judgment of disbarment of Church Point, Louisiana, attorney, **Malcolm Brasseaux**, 73, State Bar of Texas Card No. 02911000. Although properly cited and noticed, Brasseaux did not answer or appear. Mr. Brasseaux's request for permanent resignation in lieu of discipline was granted by the Supreme Court of The State of Louisiana in a matter styled, In re: Malcolm Brasseaux, Case No. 2015-0B-1654. Mr. Brasseaux was found to have the following Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.3, 1.4(a),



1.4(b), 1.4(c), 1.8(e), and 8.4(a). In accordance with the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, Mr. Brasseaux is disbarred in Texas.

**Cantu, Martin Jr.: #03767440**  
**8/1/2016-Default Disbarment**

On August 1, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a default judgment of disbarment against Round Rock attorney **Martin Cantu Jr.**, 59, State Bar of Texas Card No. 03767440. Although properly cited and noticed, Cantu did not answer or appear. On December 16, 2015, Cantu was found guilty of Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b) and 78ff] and Securities Fraud Aiding and Abetting in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b) and 78ff [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5, 18 U.S.C. § 2], Intentional Crimes as defined in the TEXAS RULES OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE, and was sentenced prison for 35 months and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$423,938.66 in case styled, United States of America v. Martin Cantu, Case No. 3:13-CR-00347-K(02), in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division. Upon his release from prison, Cantu will be on supervised release for a term of one year. His conviction is final.

**Kang, Stephen Young: #24007465**  
**8/1/2016-Default Interlocutory Suspension**

On August 1, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a default interlocutory order of suspension against Houston attorney **Stephen Young Kang**, 47, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24007465. Although properly cited and noticed, Kang did not answer or appear. On April 6, 2016, Mr. Kang pled guilty to Wire Fraud and Tax Evasion, Intentional Crimes as defined in the TEXAS RULES OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE, in the case styled, United States of America v. Stephen Young Kang, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, Cause No. 15-478(A)-GW, and by an Amended Judgment and Probation/Commitment Order he was sentenced to prison for 63 months. After release from prison, Kang will be under supervised release for three years. He was also ordered to pay restitution of \$8,765,834.24. Kang has appealed his criminal conviction. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeal is final.

**Landau, Byron L.: #00789970**  
**7/19/2016-Agreed Active Suspension**  
**07/19/2016-07/18/2019: SUSPENSION**

On July 19, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an agreed judgment of suspension of Henderson, Nevada attorney, **Byron L. Landau**, 62, State Bar of Texas Card No.00789970, suspending Mr. Landau from the practice of law in Texas for three years, beginning July 19, 2016 and ending on July 18, 2019. Mr. Landau was suspended from the practice of law for three years by the Supreme Court of Illinois in a matter styled, In re Byron Lee Landau, Attorney-Respondent, No. 3121895, Supreme Court No. M.R. Commission No. 2014PR00174.

Landau was found to have failed to consult with the client as to the means by which the objectives of the representation were to be pursued, failed to act with reasonable diligence, failed to promptly inform the client concerning circumstances with respect to which the client's informed consent were required, failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter, failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from a client, failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit an informed decision, failed to prepare and maintain complete trust account records, failed to protect a client's interests, failed to promptly refund an unearned fee, failed to supervise non lawyer employees, and assisted in the unauthorized practice of law in

another jurisdiction – violations of the following Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.2(a); 1.3; 1.4(a)(1) through 1.4(a)(4); 1.4(b); 1.5(a)(1) through 1.5(a)(8); 1.16(d); and, 5.3(a) and 5.5(a)

**Lanier, Patrick: #11933500**  
**7/26/2016-Interlocutory Suspension**

On July 26, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an agreed interlocutory order of suspension against Austin attorney **Patrick Lanier**, 67, State Bar of Texas Card No. 11933500. On March 25, 2015, Lanier was found guilty of one count of Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 and 1349, 13 counts of Wire Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, one count of Harboring and Concealing a Person from Arrest in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1071, and one count of Assisting a Federal Offender in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 3 in the case styled, United States of America v. Patrick Lanier, Cause No. 4:10CR00258-004, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division. Mr. Lanier was sentenced to 204 months on each of the wire fraud counts and 22 months on the remaining counts to run concurrently and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$37,544,944.16. Upon release from imprisonment, he will be on supervised release for three years. Lanier has appealed his criminal convictions. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeals are final.

**Messer, Marlon Brent: #24029725**  
**8/22/2016-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension**  
**08/22/2016-08/21/2018: PROBATED**

On August 22, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an agreed judgment of fully probated suspension of Pasadena, California attorney, Marlon Brent Messer, 41, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24029725, suspending Mr. Messer from the practice of Law in Texas for two years, the suspension is stayed and he is placed on probation beginning August 22, 2016 and ending on August 21, 2018. Mr. Messer was suspended from the practice of Law in North Carolina for two years, the suspension probated on certain terms and conditions on May 4, 2016, by the Disciplinary Hearing Commission of the North Carolina State Bar through a Consent Order of Discipline in a matter styled The North Carolina State Bar, Plaintiff, v. Marlon Brent Messer, Defendant, Case No. 15 DHC 53.

**Sepcich, Michael Stephen: #24056843**  
**8/1/2016-Default Disbarment**

On August 1, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a default judgment of disbarment of New Orleans attorney, **Michael Stephen Sepcich**, 46, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24056843. Although properly cited and noticed, Sepcich did not answer or appear. Mr. Sepcich was disbarred, retroactive to July 9, 2010, by the Supreme Court of The State of Louisiana in a matter styled, In re: Michael S. Sepcich, Case No. 2015-B-0709. Mr. Sepcich admitted violating Louisiana Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(c). In accordance with the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, Mr. Sepcich is disbarred in Texas.

**Tinder, John William II: #24003060**  
**7/25/2016-Agreed Active Suspension**  
**07/25/2016-07/26/2017: SUSPENSION**

On July 25, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an agreed judgment of suspension of Round Rock attorney, **John William Tinder II**, 44, State Bar of Texas Card No.24003060, suspending Mr. Tinder from the practice of law in Texas for one year and one day, beginning on July 25, 2016 and ending on July 26, 2017. Mr. Tinder was suspended from the practice of Law for one year and one day by the Supreme Court of Colorado in a matter styled, Complainant: The People of the State Of Colorado, Respondent: John William Tinder, #39915, Case No. J5PDJ 082. Respondent violated the following Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.1 failed to provide competent representation to a client; 1.2 failed to abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation; 1.3 A did not act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; 1.4(a)(3) did not keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter; 1.4(a)( 4) did not promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; 1. 16(d) upon termination of representation, he did not take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests; 3.4(c) he knowingly disobeyed an obligation under the rules of a tribunal except for an open refusal based on an assertion that no valid obligation exists; 3.4(d) he made a frivolous discovery request or failed to make reasonably diligent effort to comply with a legally proper discovery request by an opposing party; and, 8.4(c) he engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.