

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE

REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE

SEPTEMBER 2018

Disciplinary Sanctions
6/1/2018 - 8/31/2018

DISBARMENTS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Sustaita, James Stephen	9	2
Teter, William Ross	6	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Kang, Stephen Young	BODA	1
Total:	3	4

RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Fisher, Ray	9	1
Grant, Justin Blake	9	7
Henslee, Donald G.	9	8
Livesay, Richard Kent	7	1
Maldonado, Francisco Medina	8	13
Ocampo, Charles Daniel	7	16
Thomas, Robert Leon Jr.	5	8
Total:	7	54

SUSPENSIONS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Bishop, George M. III	8	1
Carroll-Curtis, Tiffany Lashon	4	1
Craft, Cris William	4	1
Cruz, Angel Ottoniel	6	1
Davis, Mark Anthony	11	2
Davis, Michael L.	3	1
Davis, Michael L.	3	1
Davis, Michael L.	3	1
Deaguero, Richard Joseph	6	1
Fiegel, Beauregard Driller	10	2
Garrett, Mpatanishi Syanaloli Tayari	6	1

Gilmet, Yexenia	4	1
Giovannini, Stephen Alfred	11	1
Gonzales, Esteban	12	1
Gonzales, Esteban	12	2
Hoak, Linda Renee	2	1
Kelly, Rosalind A.	6	1
Kelly, Rosalind A.	6	1
Kelly, Rosalind A.	6	1
Lamrouex, Floyd L.	10	2
LeFevre, Jacqueline	12	2
Martinez, David	16	1
Rangel, Santiago	6	1
Roman, Richard Abram	17	3
Spriggs, Ronald T.	13	1
Thomas, Robert Leon Jr.	5	1
Tucker, Gary Wayne	6	1
Tucker, Gary Wayne	6	1
Washington, Craig A. Sr.	8	1
White, Carl N.	1	1
Wills, Warren Clint	15	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Crews, Jeffrey Earl	BODA	1
Molina, Ronnie Robert	BODA	1

Total:	33	40
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PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Darnell, Eric Bliss	17	2
Finley, W. Thomas	6	1
Tarrant, Mark Charles	9	1
Vaughn, William Kyle	4	1
Wright, Susan Elizabeth	6	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

White, Edward K. III	BODA	1
Total:		6
		7

PRIVATE REPRIMANDS

Grievance Comm.	# of Sanctions	# of Complaints Resolved
1	2	2
3	1	1
4	11	11
5	3	3
6	4	5
9	2	2
10	1	1
12	1	1
16	1	2
17	2	2
Total:		28
Total:		30
Grievance Referral Program		20
Grand Total:		97
		156

Disciplinary Actions - Current Bar Year

BAR YEARS 2018-2019	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	3	4
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	7	54
SUSPENSIONS	33	40
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	6	7
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	28	30
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	20	21
Total:	97	156

*does not reflect year-end figures

Disciplinary Actions - Previous Bar Year

BAR YEARS 2017-2018	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	21	45
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	23	102
SUSPENSIONS	116	163
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	25	29
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	70	74
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	79	80
Total:	334	493

BAR YEARS 2016-2017	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	20	59
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	28	122
SUSPENSIONS	126	182
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	30	37
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	90	98
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	50	50
Total:	344	548

BAR YEARS 2015-2016	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	22	61
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	27	146
SUSPENSIONS	132	205
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	30	33
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	67	72
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	47	47
Total:	325	564

BAR YEARS 2014-2015	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	27	55
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	19	56
SUSPENSIONS	113	147
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	32	36
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	66	72
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	64	72
Total:	321	438

BAR YEARS 2013-2014	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	22	41
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	17	58
SUSPENSIONS	130	169
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	31	35
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	63	70
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	57	57
Total:	320	430

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
05/18/2018-Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.14(a)

A lawyer shall hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients or third persons that are in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property. Such funds shall be kept in a separate account, designated as a "trust" or "escrow" account, maintained in the state where the lawyer's office is situated, or elsewhere with the consent of the client or third person. Other client property shall be identified as such and appropriately safeguarded. Complete records of such account funds and other property shall be kept by the lawyer and shall be preserved for a period of five years after termination of the representation.

Rule 1.14(b)

Upon receiving funds or other property in which a client or third person has an interest, a lawyer shall promptly notify the client or third person. Except as stated in this rule or otherwise permitted by law or by agreement with the client, a lawyer shall promptly deliver to the client or third person any funds or other property that the client or third person is entitled to receive and, upon request by the client or third person, shall promptly render a full accounting regarding such property.

Rule 1.14(c)

When in the course of representation a lawyer is in possession of funds or other property in which both the lawyer and another person claim interests, the property shall be kept separate by the lawyer until there is an accounting and severance of their interest. All funds in a trust or escrow account shall be disbursed only to those persons entitled to receive them by virtue of the representation or by law. If a dispute arises concerning their respective interests, the portion in dispute shall be kept separated by the lawyer until the dispute is resolved, and the undisputed portion shall be distributed appropriately.

Respondent filed an Appeal on May 31, 2018.

**Dallas Attorney
8/20/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

White, Carl N.: #24026524
05/01/2018-Fully Probated Suspension
04/18/2018-04/17/2020: PROBATED

On May 1, 2018, **Carl N. White** [#24026524], 56, of Denison, received a 24-month, fully probated suspension, effective April 18, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that on March 9, 2016, the complainant paid White \$750.00 to represent him in a divorce proceeding. Thereafter, White failed to file the divorce for the complainant. White also failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of the divorce and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant about the divorce. Furthermore, White failed to respond to the grievance that the complainant filed against him. White violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 2:

Hoak, Linda Renee: #24059218
06/19/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
07/01/2018-06/30/2019: PROBATED

On June 19, 2018, **Linda Renee Hoak** [#24059218], 50, of Tyler, received a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 2 Grievance Committee found that on May 14, 2015, the complainant paid Hoak \$5,000.00 to represent him in a modification of child custody matter. Thereafter, Hoak neglected the case by failing to complete the transfer of venue in the modification matter. Hoak also failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of his case and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant about the case. Upon termination, Hoak failed to refund any unearned fee. Furthermore, Hoak failed to respond to the grievance that the complainant filed against her. Hoak violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$338.00 in restitution and \$750.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 3:

Davis, Michael L.: #05528760
06/15/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
09/01/2018-10/01/2018: SUSPENSION
10/02/2018-09/01/2019: PROBATED

On June 15, 2018, **Michael L. Davis** [#05528760], 56, of Livingston, accepted a one-year, partially probated suspension, effective September 1, 2018, with the first 30 days actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that Davis neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Davis violated Rule 1.01(b)(1). He agreed to pay \$100.00 in direct expenses.

Davis, Michael L.: #05528760
06/15/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
09/01/2018-10/01/2018: SUSPENSION
10/02/2018-09/01/2019: PROBATED

On June 15, 2018, **Michael L. Davis** [#05528760], 56, of Livingston, accepted a one-year, partially probated suspension, effective September 1, 2018, with the first 30 days actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that Davis failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit his client to make informed decision regarding the representation. Davis violated Rule 1.03(b). He agreed to pay \$2,000.00 in restitution and \$100.00 in direct expenses.

Davis, Michael L.: #05528760
06/15/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
09/01/2018-10/01/2018: SUSPENSION
10/02/2018-09/01/2019: PROBATED

On June 15, 2018, **Michael L. Davis** [#05528760], 56, of Livingston, accepted a one-year, partially probated suspension, effective September 1, 2018, with the first 30 days actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that Davis failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of their matter. Davis violated Rule 1.03(a). He agreed to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$100.00 in direct expenses.

Houston Attorney
05/04/2018-Private Reprimand

Rule 1.15(d)

a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned

DISTRICT 4:

Houston Attorney
08/21/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.14(a)

A lawyer shall hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients or third persons that are in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property. Such funds shall be kept in a separate account, designated as a "trust" or "escrow" account, maintained in the state where the lawyer's office is situated, or elsewhere with the consent of the client or third person. Other client property shall be identified as such and appropriately safeguarded. Complete records of such account funds and other property shall be kept by the lawyer and shall be preserved for a period of five years after termination of the representation.

Rule 1.15(d)

Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law only if such retention will not prejudice the client in the subject matter of the representation.

**Houston Attorney
08/21/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.15(d)

Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law only if such retention will not prejudice the client in the subject matter of the representation.

Rule 8.04(a)(8)

A lawyer shall not fail to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, unless he or she in good faith timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

**Carroll-Curtis, Tiffany Lashon: #24031799
04/25/2018-Fully Probated Suspension
04/25/2018-04/24/2020: PROBATED**

On April 25, 2018, **Tiffany Lashon Carroll-Curtis** [#24031799], 43, of Houston, received a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective April 25, 2018. The 11th District Court of Harris County found that Carroll-Curtis violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) [prohibiting a lawyer from neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], Rule 1.03(a) [requiring a lawyer to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], and Rule 8.04(a)(3) [engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation]. Carroll-Curtis was ordered to pay \$6,988.50 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Houston Attorney
05/18/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer

Rule 1.02(a)(1)

for failing to abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives and general methods of representation

Craft, Cris William: #04971250
07/16/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
07/15/2018-07/14/2019: PROBATED

On July 16, 2018, **Cris William Craft** [#04971250], 59, of Houston, accepted a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 15, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, in representing his client, Craft neglected the legal matter entrusted to him, frequently failed to carry out completely the obligations owed to his client, and failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Upon termination of representation, Craft also failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned 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. Craft violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$325.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Houston Attorney
06/12/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

Rule 1.03(b)

A lawyer shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

Houston Attorney
06/04/2018-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

Gilmet, Yexenia: #24059821
06/07/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
06/01/2018-03/31/2019: PROBATED

On June 7, 2018, **Yexenia Gilmet** [#24059821], 38, of Houston, accepted a nine-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Gilmet frequently failed to carry out completely the obligations he owed to her client in his child custody matter.

Gilmet violated Rule 1.01(b)(2). She was ordered to pay \$1,475.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Houston Attorney
07/13/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.03(b)

A lawyer shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

Houston Attorney
04/23/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rule 1.15(d)

Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law only if such retention will not prejudice the client in the subject matter of the representation.

Houston Attorney
06/08/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 8.04(a)(8)

A lawyer shall not fail to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, unless he or she in good faith timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

Rule 8.04(a)(11)

A lawyer shall not engage 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.

Houston Attorney
08/05/2018-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

**Houston Attorney
07/16/2018-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

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer

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

**Houston Attorney
06/29/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.15(d)

Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law only if such retention will not prejudice the client in the subject matter of the representation.

**Vaughn, William Kyle: #00797597
06/29/2018-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On June 29, 2018, **William Kyle Vaughn** [#00797597], 49, of Houston, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, in representing his client, Vaughn neglected the legal matter entrusted to him, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Vaughn also 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 and did not, in good faith, timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so. Vaughn violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and costs.

DISTRICT 5:

**Houston Attorney
08/06/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rule 1.14(b)

Upon receiving funds or other property in which a client or third person has an interest, a lawyer shall promptly notify the client or third person. Except as stated in this rule or otherwise permitted by law or by agreement with the client, a lawyer shall promptly deliver to the client or third person any funds or other property that the client or third person is entitled to receive and, upon request by the client or third person, shall promptly render a full accounting regarding such property.

**Houston Attorney
08/06/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

**Austin Attorney
06/06/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

**Thomas, Robert Leon Jr.: #24004945
07/06/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline**

On July 6, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Robert Leon Thomas, Jr.** [#24004945], 49, of Sneads Ferry, North Carolina. At the time of Thomas' resignation, there were eight pending matters against him, alleging Thomas neglected legal matters entrusted to him; failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters; failed to refund unearned fees; failed to surrender papers and property to which his client was entitled; formed a partnership with a non-lawyer where activities of the partnership consisted of the practice of law; formed a professional corporation authorized to practice law for profit when a nonlawyer owned an interest therein; 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. Thomas violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 5.04(b), 5.04(d)(1), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$11,900.00, and \$1,800.00 in attorneys' fees and costs, as absolute conditions precedent for reinstatement.

Thomas, Robert Leon Jr.: #24004945
06/18/2018-Active Suspension
06/19/2018-06/19/2020: SUSPENSION

On June 18, 2018, **Robert Leon Thomas, Jr.** [#24004945], 49, of Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, received a 24-month, active suspension, effective June 19, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 5 Grievance Committee found that in representing a client, Thomas neglected a legal matter entrusted to him. Thomas violated Rule 1.01(b)(1).

DISTRICT 6:

Dallas Attorney
07/16/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

Rule 1.14(b)

Upon receiving funds or other property in which a client or third person has an interest, a lawyer shall promptly notify the client or third person. Except as stated in this rule or otherwise permitted by law or by agreement with the client, a lawyer shall promptly deliver to the client or third person any funds or other property that the client or third person is entitled to receive and, upon request by the client or third person, shall promptly render a full accounting regarding such property.

Dallas Attorney
04/24/2018-Private Reprimand

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

Rule 1.03(b)

A lawyer shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

Cruz, Angel Ottoniel: #24048412
06/07/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
06/15/2018-06/14/2019: SUSPENSION
06/15/2019-06/14/2021: PROBATED

On June 7, 2018, **Angel Ottoniel Cruz** [#24048412], 42, of Dallas, received a 36-month, partially probated suspension, effective June 15, 2018, with the first 12 months actively served and the remainder probated. The 95th District Court of Dallas County found that Cruz committed Professional Misconduct

by violating Rules 1.01(b)(1) [In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], 1.03(a) [A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], 1.15(d) [Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law only if such retention will not prejudice the client in the subject matter of the representation], and 8.04(a)(8) [A lawyer shall not fail to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Councils office or a district grievance committee a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, unless he or she in good faith timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so]. Cruz was ordered to pay attorney's fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$1,774.97 and restitution in the sum of \$1,000.00.

Deaguero, Richard Joseph: #05623500
04/20/2018-Fully Probated Suspension
04/16/2018-10/15/2019: PROBATED

On April 20, 2018, **Richard Joseph Deaguero** [#05623500], 72, of Dallas, received an 18-month, fully probated suspension. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Deaguero was hired by the client for representation in a criminal matter. Deaguero neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to file a notice of appearance and by failing to notify the court and the client's court-appointed attorney that the client had retained his services. Upon termination of representation Deaguero failed to refund advance payments of the fee that had not been earned. Deaguero violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay Restitution in the amount of \$1,500.00, attorneys' fees of \$3,000.00 and \$200.00 in costs and direct expenses. Deaguero filed a Notice of Appeal on May 21, 2018.

Finley, W. Thomas: #07025500
08/02/2018-Public Reprimand

On August 2, 2018, **W. Thomas Finley** [#07025500], 70, of Dallas, received a public reprimand. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that on July 7, 2015, the client hired Finley to serve as legal counsel regarding a tax matter. Finley was paid \$2,500.00 for the legal representation. Finley neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to provide legal services. He also failed to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the client's tax matter, and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the client. Finley also failed to file a response to the grievance. Finley violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,500.00 and attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Garrett, Mpatanishi Syanaloli Tayari: #24073090
05/15/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
08/20/2018-12/31/2019: SUSPENSION
01/01/2020-06/30/2021: PROBATED

On May 15, 2018, **Mpatanishi Syanaloli Tayari Garrett** [#24073090], 42, of Dallas, received a 36-month, partially probated suspension, effective August 20, 2018, with the first 16 months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that in the course of a bankruptcy matter, Garrett took a position that unreasonably increased the costs or other burdens of the case or that unreasonably delayed resolution of the matter. In connection with the bankruptcy matter, Garrett knowingly disobeyed an obligation under a ruling by the tribunal. Garrett violated Rules 3.02 and 3.04(d). She was ordered to pay \$18,640.80 in attorneys' fees and \$1,439.00 direct expenses. Garrett filed a notice of appeal on August 3, 2018.

Dallas Attorney
04/18/2018-Private Reprimand

Rule 1.09(a)(3)

Without prior consent, a lawyer who personally has formerly represented a client in a matter shall not thereafter represent another person in a matter adverse to the former client if it is the same or a substantially related matter.

Respondent filed a notice of appeal on July 17, 2018.

Kelly, Rosalind A.: #11237580
09/18/2017-Partially Probated Suspension
09/14/2017-06/13/2018: SUSPENSION
06/14/2018-09/13/2021: PROBATED

On September 18, 2017, **Rosalind A. Kelly** [#11237580], 54, of Highland Village, received a 48-month, partially probated suspension, effective September 14, 2017, with the first nine months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that on October 8, 2012, Complainant, hired Kelly for representation in a divorce involving children. In representing Complainant, Kelly neglected the legal matter entrusted to her by failing to appear at Court hearings. Kelly violated Rule 1.01(b)(1). She was ordered to pay \$3,161.25 in attorneys' fees and \$535.00 in direct expenses. Kelly filed an appeal on December 7, 2017.

Kelly, Rosalind A.: #11237580
05/29/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/24/2018-05/23/2019: SUSPENSION
05/24/2019-05/23/2022: PROBATED

On May 29, 2018, **Rosalind A. Kelly** [#1123750], 55, of Highland Village, agreed to a 48-month, partially probated suspension, effective May 24, 2018, with the first 12 months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that beginning in January 2016, Kelly represented Complainant in a child custody matter. Upon termination of representation, Kelly failed to

surrender papers and property to which Complainant was entitled. Kelly failed to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office a response to the grievance. Kelly violated Rules 1.15(d) and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$3,700.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Kelly, Rosalind A.: #11237580

08/02/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension

05/24/2018-05/23/2019: SUSPENSION

05/24/2019-05/23/2022: PROBATED

On August 2, 2018, **Rosalind A. Kelly** [#11237580], 55, of Highland Village, agreed to a 48-month, partially probated suspension, effective May 24, 2018, with the first 12 months actively served and the remainder probated. The 101st District Court of Dallas County found that the parties agreed that Kelly committed Professional Misconduct by violating Rules 1.01(b)(1) [In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], 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 8.04(a)(8) [A lawyer shall not fail to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, unless he or she in good faith timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so]. Kelly was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$450.00.

Dallas Attorney

07/10/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rangel, Santiago: #24004874

08/09/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension

07/01/2018-09/29/2018: PROBATED

On August 9, 2018, **Santiago Rangel** [#24004874], 53, of Dallas, agreed to a 90-day, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that Rangel was suspended from the practice of law for failure to pay required fees. Rangel engaged in the practice of law when his right to practice had been administratively suspended for failure to timely pay required fees or assessments. Rangel 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 and Rangel did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so. Rangel violated Rules 8.04(a)(8) and 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$1,250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Teter, William Ross: #19811000
05/07/2018-Disbarment

On May 7, 2018, **William Ross Teter** [#19811000], 77, of Dallas, received a judgment of disbarment. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Teter engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation and knowingly made a false statement of material of fact or law to a tribunal, namely, that he had been authorized to file a suit on behalf of his client. Teter also filed a lawsuit purportedly on behalf of a group against the same Defendants and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation by misrepresenting to the Court that he had valid assignments of the individual judgment debtors' causes of action. In the course of this litigation, Teter took positions that unreasonably increased the costs or other burdens of the case and that unreasonably delayed resolution of the matter. Teter brought proceedings, and asserted issues therein that were frivolous and had no reasonable basis. Teter sent written solicitation communication to prospective clients that were not plainly marked "ADVERTISEMENT" on the first page and accepted and/or continued employment in a matter when his employment was procured by such conduct. Teter violated Rules 3.01, 3.02, 3.03(a)(1), 7.05(b)(1), 7.06, and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$4,319.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Tucker, Gary Wayne: #24047002
05/22/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
06/08/2018-12/07/2018: SUSPENSION
12/08/2018-06/07/2021: PROBATED

On May 22, 2018, **Gary Wayne Tucker** [#24047002], 55, of Dallas, received a 36-month, partially probated suspension, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Tucker filed a third-party claim on behalf of his client against the complainant. Tucker communicated directly with the complainant, who was represented by counsel, about the case and did not have the consent of the other lawyer to make the communication and was not authorized by law to make the communication. Although the third-party claim was dismissed with prejudice to refile of the same in the State of Texas, Tucker filed a civil action against the complainant alleging the same facts. Tucker brought a proceeding that was frivolous and took a position that unreasonably increased the costs or other burdens of the case or that unreasonably delayed resolution of the matter. Tucker knowingly disobeyed a ruling by a tribunal by failing to pay court-ordered sanctions. Tucker also failed to file a response to the grievance. Tucker violated Rules 3.01, 3.02, 3.04(d), 4.02(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$6,800.00 and attorneys' fees and direct costs in the amount of \$2,819.40.

Tucker, Gary Wayne: #24047002
03/22/2018-Default Partially Probated Suspension
03/08/2018-06/07/2018: SUSPENSION
06/08/2018-03/07/2020: PROBATED

On March 22, 2018, **Gary Wayne Tucker** [#24047002], 55, of Dallas, received a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective March 8, 2018. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in or about September 2014, Complainant retained Tucker for representation in a probate matter. In representing Complainant Tucker neglected the legal matter, failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of his probate matter and failed to promptly comply

with reasonable requests for information from Complainant. Tucker violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$5,500.00 in restitution and \$1,161.50 in attorneys' fees and costs.

Wright, Susan Elizabeth: #22058475
06/13/2018-Agreed Public Reprimand

On June 13, 2018, **Susan Elizabeth Wright** [#22058475], 53, of Dallas, agreed to a public reprimand. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that in October 2015, Wright was retained to represent Complainant in a family law matter. In representing Complainant, Wright neglected the legal matter entrusted to her by failing to appear at a hearing scheduled in Complainant's matter and by allowing Complainant's matter to be dismissed. Wright failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of the case and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Wright violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). She was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$800.00

DISTRICT 7:

Ocampo, Charles Daniel: #24088888
06/12/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On June 12, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Charles Daniel Ocampo** [#24088888], 38, of Fort Worth. At the time of Ocampo's resignation, there were 16 pending matters against him alleging Ocampo neglected cases, failed to communicate, failed to reasonably explain matters to Complainants to permit them to make informed decisions regarding their cases, failed to notify and disburse funds in which Complainants had an interest, and failed to return unearned fees and Complainants' files. Ocampo also failed to inform Complainants that he was suspended from the practice of law and had closed his office. Furthermore, Ocampo failed to file responses to Complainants' grievances with the State Bar of Texas. Ocampo violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.04(a)(10).

Livesay, Richard Kent: #00790057
07/06/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On July 6, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Richard Kent Livesay** [#00790057], 49, of Edinburg. At the time of Livesay's resignation, there was one pending matter against him. In The State of Texas vs. Richard K. Livesay, Case Number 1531594, in the Criminal District Court No 2, Tarrant County, Texas. On February 8, 2018, Livesay was named in a true bill of indictment handed down by a grand jury in the Tarrant County Criminal District Court Number 2. The indictment, alleged Respondent committed "serious" crimes as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure Rule 1.06(a). A lawyer shall not commit a serious crime or commit any other criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects; engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation; and engage in conduct that constitutes barratry as defined by the law of this state. Alleged Rules Violated: 8.04(a)(2), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(9).

DISTRICT 8:

Bishop, George M. III: #02353000
04/24/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
05/01/2018-04/30/2019: SUSPENSION
05/01/2019-04/30/2020: PROBATED

On April 24, 2018, **George M. Bishop, III** [#02353000], 76, of Chappell Hill, received a two-year, judgment of partially probated suspension [Active: 05/01/2018 - 04/30/2019; Probated: 05/01/2019 - 04/30/2020]. The 21st District Court of Washington County found that Bishop violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) [In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer]. Bishop was ordered to pay \$10,000.00 in attorneys' fees and costs. Bishop has filed an appeal.

Maldonado, Francisco Medina: #24038614
08/24/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On August 24, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Francisco Medina Maldonado** [#24038614], 41, of Temple. At the time of Maldonado's resignation, ten disciplinary cases were pending against him involving immigration matters and one disciplinary case was pending against him involving a contract. Maldonado neglected his clients' legal matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed about the status of the matters and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. He further failed to promptly render full accountings when requested. When terminated, Maldonado failed to surrender papers and property to which the clients were entitled and failed to refund advance payments of fees that has not been earned. Maldonado also failed to timely furnish written responses to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office. Maldonado violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

Washington, Craig A. Sr.: #20901000
12/05/2017-Active Suspension
12/05/2017-12/03/2020

On December 5, 2017 the 335th District Court of Bastrop County revoked the probation of Bastrop attorney **Craig A. Washington, Sr.**, 76, State Bar of Texas Card No. 20901000 and suspended him from the practice of law for three years, beginning December 5, 2017 and ending December 3, 2020.

Washington's probation revocation pertains to a modified judgment entered on March 12, 2015, which imposed a four-year partially probated suspension with twelve months active and three years probated. Washington was ordered to pay \$24,693.74 in attorneys' fees and costs. The Court found that Washington materially violated the terms and conditions of the Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension. Washington has filed an appeal.

DISTRICT 9:

Fisher, Ray: #07057400
08/24/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On August 24, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Ray Fisher** [#07057400], 65, of Austin. At the time of Fisher's resignation, one disciplinary matter was pending in which Complainant hired Fisher in January of 2014, to represent her in bankruptcy proceedings. Complainant paid Fisher an advanced fee of \$2,500.00. Thereafter, Complainant decided not to pursue bankruptcy and requested a refund of unearned fees. Fisher agreed to return the fees, but stated that he did not have the money to pay Complainant back quickly. Fisher offered to pay Complainant back at a rate \$25.00 a month, but acknowledged that there might be months where it would be more or less. Fisher failed to maintain Complainant's funds in a trust account until they were earned. Fisher violated Rules 1.14(a), and 1.15(d).

Grant, Justin Blake: #24079837
08/24/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On August 24, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Justin Blake Grant** [#24079837], 35, of Austin. This resignation occurs as a result of two disciplinary cases pending against Mr. Grant, stemming from missing personal injury settlements. In both cases, Grant failed to keep the clients reasonably informed about the status of the matters, failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, failed to hold settlement funds belonging to his clients separate from his own property, failed to promptly deliver settlement funds to the clients, knowingly made false statements in connection with the disciplinary matters and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Grant violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 8.01(a), and 8.04(a)(3).

Henslee, Donald G.: #09488500
07/06/2018-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On July 6, 2018, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Donald G. Henslee** [#09488500], 71, of Austin. At the time of Henslee's resignation, nine disciplinary cases were pending against him. Between 2015 and 2017, Henslee represented nine Complainants or their children in school law matters. The Complainants paid Henslee advanced fees ranging from \$2,500.00 to \$15,000.00 for the representations. In three of those cases, Henslee failed to place the advanced fees into his trust account. In some of the cases he provided minimal legal services, such as sending a letter of representation or requesting school records. However, Henslee failed to appear for hearings and failed to complete the work he was hired to do in every case. Additionally, after receipt of the retainers, Henslee ceased communications with Complainants and they were unable to obtain information about the status of their legal matters. At some point in the representation, each Complainant terminated the representation and requested that Henslee provide an accounting and return the unearned portion of the advanced fee paid. In one case, Henslee returned the unearned fee after he received notice of the complaint but did not return the client's file as requested. Although he indicated to four Complainants that he would return unearned fees, he failed to do so. In the remaining cases, Henslee failed to respond in any manner to the clients' requests for refunds. In five of the cases Henslee failed to furnish a written response to the complaints as required. In his response to two of the complaints, Henslee made false statements.

Specifically he falsely stated that one Complainant had gotten his fees back through Complainant's credit card company and that another Complainant had attended a three hour consultation in his office. Henslee violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.02(a)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(3), 8.01(a), and 8.04(a)(8).

Dallas Attorney

06/05/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

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

Sustaita, James Stephen: #24013596

07/30/2018-Disbarment

On July 30, 2018, **James Stephen Sustaita** [#24013596], 51, of Austin, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that in one case Complainant hired Sustaita on December 10, 2016, to represent him in a family law matter. On February 2, 2017, Complainant terminated the representation and requested an accounting and return of unearned fees. After the grievance was filed, Sustaita returned the unearned fees but never provided an accounting. In another case, the panel found that Complainant hired Sustaita to represent him in a divorce in 2014. The parties read an agreed property division into the record in 2016. Complainant objected to the proposed written divorce decree because it was not reflective of the agreement as stated in open court. Nevertheless, Sustaita signed Complainant's name to the decree without correcting the property division. The disputed provisions resulted in negative tax consequences for Complainant. When Complainant confronted Sustaita about the decree, Sustaita said that he would file a nunc pro tunc motion to correct the errors but failed to do so for almost a year, and never set the motion for a hearing or provided a proposed decree reflecting the requested changes. In post-judgment litigation, Opposing Counsel propounded discovery on Sustaita. Sustaita failed to notify Complainant about the discovery, Rule 11 agreements regarding that discovery, or discovery sanctions. Complainant terminated Sustaita's services and requested an accounting, but Sustaita failed to provide one. Sustaita failed to furnish a written response to the complaint as directed. Sustaita violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), and 8.04(a)(8). Sustaita was also ordered to pay \$10,920.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses. Sustaita has filed an appeal.

Tarrant, Mark Charles: #19649650

06/05/2018-Agreed Public Reprimand

On June 5, 2018, **Mark Charles Tarrant** [#19649650], 62, of Austin, accepted a public reprimand. The District 9 evidentiary panel found that Tarrant neglected a client's probate case. Tarrant violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, Article X, Section 9, State Bar Rules. Tarrant paid \$225.00 in attorneys' fees and costs.

Austin Attorney
07/17/2018-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

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 10:

Fiegel, Beauregard Driller: #24086782
07/01/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
07/01/2018-04/01/2019: SUSPENSION
04/01/2019-01/16/2023: PROBATED

On July 1, 2018, **Beauregard Driller Fiegel** [#24086782], 33, of San Antonio, received a four-year, six month and sixteen days, partially probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018, with the first nine months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 10 Grievance Committee Panel found that Fiegel failed to communicate with clients, failed to return unearned fees, failed to respond to grievances and engaged in the practice of law while his law license was administratively suspended. Fiegel violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.04(a)(11), was ordered to pay \$1,917.74 in restitution and \$2,492.20 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Lamrouex, Floyd L.: #11854900
07/6/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
02/15/2019-06/14/2019: PROBATED

On July 6, 2018, **Floyd L. Lamrouex** [#11854900], 57, of San Antonio, agreed to a four-month, fully probated suspension, effective February 15, 2019. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Lamrouex neglected a client's matter, failed to communicate with a client, and failed to respond to a grievance. Lamrouex violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

San Antonio Attorney
06/04/2018-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

Rule 1.04(c)

for failing to communicate to the client the basis or rate of the fee before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation.

DISTRICT 11:

Davis, Mark Anthony: #24012509
06/14/2018-Fully Probated Suspension
07/01/2018-06/30/2020: PROBATED

On June 14, 2018, **Mark Anthony Davis** [#24012509], 46, of Victoria, received a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018. The District 11 Grievance Committee found that Davis neglected a client's matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed, failed to provide a full accounting of funds, failed to return the unearned portion of a fee, and failed to respond to two grievances. Davis violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d); 1.14(b), and 8.04(a)(8) and was ordered to pay \$3,750.00 restitution and \$2,358.14 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Giovannini, Stephen Alfred: #24002143
06/12/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
07/01/2018-06/30/2019: PROBATED

On June 12, 2018, **Stephen Alfred Giovannini**, [#24002143], 51, of Corpus Christi, agreed to a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018. The District 11 Grievance Committee found that Giovannini made false statements of material fact to a tribunal and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit or misrepresentation. Giovannini violated Rules 3.03(a)(1) and 8.04(a)(3), was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 12:

San Antonio Attorney
08/30/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

Gonzales, Esteban: #24028747
06/08/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
08/31/2018-02/28/2019: SUSPENSION
02/28/2019-08/30/2022: PROBATED

On June 8, 2018, **Esteban Gonzales** [#24028747], 45, of San Benito, agreed to a four-year, partially probated suspension, effective August 31, 2018, with the first six-months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 12 Grievance Committee Panel found that Gonzales failed to abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives and general methods of representation, failed to keep a client reasonably informed, failed to hold client's funds separate from his own property and failed to promptly deliver funds to parties entitled to receive funds. Gonzales violated Rules 1.02(a)(2), 1.03(a), and 1.14(a)&(b) and was ordered to pay \$8,635.00 in restitution and \$900.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Gonzales, Esteban: #24028747
05/17/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
05/15/2018-05/14/2019: PROBATED

On May 17, 2018, **Esteban Gonzales**, [#24028747], 45, of San Benito, agreed to a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective May 15, 2018. The District 12 Grievance Committee found that Gonzales neglected client's matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed and failed to return the unearned portion of a fee to two clients. Gonzales violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d), was ordered to pay \$2,250.00 in restitution and \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

LeFevre, Jacqueline: #24027947
08/23/2018-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
10/01/2018-01/31/2019: SUSPENSION
02/01/2019-09/30/2021: PROBATED

On August 23, 2018, **Jacqueline LeFevre** [#24027947], 42, of Rio Grande City, agreed to a 36-month, partially probated suspension, effective October 1, 2018, with the first four months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 12 Grievance Committee found that LeFevre failed to keep clients reasonably informed, failed to refund unearned fees, represented two parties that had a conflict of interest, failed to return a client's file and failed to respond to a grievance timely. LeFevre violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), 1.06, 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8), and agreed to pay \$1,250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 13:

Spriggs, Ronald T.: #00792853
05/23/2018-Partially Probated Suspension
05/15/2018-06/14/2018: SUSPENSION
06/15/2018-05/14/2019: PROBATED

On May 23, 2018, **Ronald T. Spriggs** [#00792853], 59, of Amarillo, received a 12-month, partially probated suspension, effective May 15, 2018, with the first month actively served and the remainder probated. The District 13 Grievance Committee found that in May 2010, Complainant hired Spriggs to represent her in defense of a civil lawsuit. In representing Complainant, Spriggs neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to appear at trial. Spriggs failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her civil case, including failing to notify Complainant of court ordered mediation and the trial setting. Spriggs failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant about her civil case. Spriggs violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), and 1.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$4,000.00 in attorneys' fees and \$373.00 direct expenses.

DISTRICT 15:

Wills, Warren Clint: #24037716
06/26/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
07/01/2018-11/01/2021: PROBATED

On June 26, 2018, **Warren Clint Wills** [#24037716], 43, of San Angelo, agreed to a 40-month, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2018. The District 15 Grievance Committee found that Wills enter into a prohibited business transaction with a client. Wills violated Rule 1.08(a) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 16:

San Antonio Attorney
06/04/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.15(a)(1)

A lawyer shall decline to represent a client or, where representation has commenced, shall withdraw, except as stated in paragraph (c), from the representation of a client, if the representation will result in violation of Rule 3.08, other applicable rules of professional conduct or other law.

Rule 3.04(d)

A lawyer shall not knowingly disobey, or advise the client to disobey, an obligation under the standing rules of or a ruling by a tribunal except for an open refusal based either on an assertion that no valid obligation exists or on the client's willingness to accept any sanctions arising from such disobedience.

Martinez, David: #13141650
07/17/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
08/01/2018-07/31/2020: PROBATED

On July 17, 2018, **David Martinez** [#13141650], 64, of Lubbock, accepted a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective August 1, 2018. The District 16 Grievance Committee found that Martinez failed to keep his client reasonably informed, failed to take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect his client's interest, and failed to return a client's file. Martinez violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), 1.15(b)(1), and 1.15(d), and agreed to pay \$1,191.50 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 17:

Darnell, Eric Bliss: #00783928
09/20/2017-Public Reprimand

On September 20, 2017, **Eric Bliss Darnell** [#00783928], 61, of El Paso, received a public reprimand. The District 17 Grievance Committee found that Darnell failed to communicate with clients, asserted a frivolous claim, increased the costs and burdens of a case, violated a court order and misrepresented facts to the court. Darnell has filed for an appeal of this judgment. Darnell violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), 3.01, 3.02, 3.03(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(3).

San Antonio Attorney
07/02/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 5.03(a)

for failing to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the non-lawyer's conduct is compatible with the professional obligations of the lawyer.

Rule 7.03(a)

A lawyer shall not by in-person or telephone contact seek professional employment concerning a matter arising out of a particular occurrence or event, or series of occurrences or events, from a prospective client or nonclient who has not sought the lawyer's advice regarding employment or with whom the lawyer has no family or past or present attorney-client relationship when a significant motive for the lawyer's doing so is the lawyer's pecuniary gain. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, a lawyer for a qualified nonprofit organization may communicate with the organization's members for the purpose of educating the members to understand the law, to recognize legal problems, to make intelligent selection of counsel, or to use legal services.

Rule 7.03(d)

for entering into an agreement for, charging for, or collecting a fee for professional employment obtained in violation of Rule 7.03(a), (b), or (c).

Roman, Richard Abram: #00789595
08/07/2018-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
08/01/2018-07/31/2020: PROBATED

On August 7, 2018, **Richard Abram Roman** [#00789595], 55, of El Paso, accepted a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective August 1, 2018. The District 17 Grievance Committee found that Roman failed to keep clients reasonably informed, acted as an intermediary without the necessary disclosures, failed to properly safeguard client property and failed to return the clients' file. Roman violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.07(a), 1.14(a) and 1.15(d), and agreed to pay \$3,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

San Antonio Attorney
07/10/2018-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.15(a)(1)

A lawyer shall decline to represent a client or, where representation has commenced, shall withdraw, except as stated in paragraph (c), from the representation of a client, if the representation will result in violation of Rule 3.08, other applicable rules of professional conduct or other law.

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Crews, Jeffrey Earl: #24012475
08/01/2018-Default Active Suspension
08/01/2018-07/31/2019: SUSPENSION

On August 1, 2018, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals revoked the probation of Houston attorney **Jeffrey Earl Crews**, 57, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24012475. The Board found that Mr. Crews materially violated the terms and conditions of the judgment of fully probated suspension signed by the District 4 State Bar of Texas grievance committee on November 28, 2017, that placed him on a probated suspension beginning January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2018. The Board suspended him from the practice of law for 12 months, beginning August 1, 2018, and ending July 31, 2019. Although duly cited, Mr. Crews did not answer or appear.

Kang, Stephen Young: #24007465
08/01/2018-Default Disbarment

On August 1, 2018 the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a final judgment of disbarment against Houston attorney **Stephen Young Kang**, 49, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24007465. On November 6, 2015, Mr. Kang pled guilty to wire fraud and tax evasion, Intentional Crimes as defined in the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, United States of America v. Stephen Young Kang, Cause No.15-478(A)-GW and was sentenced to 63 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$8,765,834.24. On August 1, 2016, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a default interlocutory order of suspension against Mr. Kang while he appealed his criminal conviction. On February 9, 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit dismissed his appeal and issued its mandate on March 5, 2018.

Molina, Ronnie Robert: #24034585
07/13/2018-Indefinite Disability Suspension

On July 13, 2018, **Ronnie Robert Molina** [#24034585], 47, of Fort Worth, agreed to a judgment of indefinite disability suspension, effective immediately. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an Agreed Judgment of Indefinite Disability Suspension based on Molina's agreement that he suffers from a disability that results in his inability to practice law.

White, Edward K. III: #21341700
08/01/2018-Public Reprimand

On August 1, 2018, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a public reprimand of Franklin, TN attorney, **Edward K. White III**, 70, State Bar of Texas Card No. 21341700. On October 14, 2016, the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee signed an Order of Public Censure of White in a matter styled *In re: Edward Kendall White, III, BPR 17689, File No. 41671c-6-BG* for filing an interpleader action that lacked any factual or legal basis. In accordance with Part IX of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, White is publicly reprimanded in Texas.