

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE

REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE

JUNE 2015

**Disciplinary Sanctions
March 1, 2014 through May 31, 2014**

DISBARMENTS	DISTRICT	Number of Complaints Resolved
Batten, Gail Norman	11	1
Brooks, Ross Patton	15	3
Gonzalez, Juan P.	11	2
Guerra-Cavazos, Bobbie Marie	17	4
Hodges, Jr., Hugh M.	6	1
Little, Daniel Charles	7	1
Little, Daniel Charles	7	1
Septowski, Charles D.	9	1
Board of Disciplinary Appeals:		
Andres, Robert Joseph	BODA	1
Total	9	15

RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU of DISCIPLINE	DISTRICT	Number of Complaints Resolved
Matzke, Bruce	11	1
Murchison, Hensel	4	2
O'Laughlin, Frederick J.	9	3
Risley, John Harold	9	1
Siegel, Andrew Lee	6	2
Villalobos, Armando Roberto	9	1
Total	6	10

SUSPENSIONS	DISTRICT	Number of Complaints Resolved
Alberson, Raymond B.	7	1
Barnes, George Michael	7	1
Brininger, III, Blair Bernard	4	4
Bush, Kimberly Lynn	10	1
Canales, Olivero E.	12	2
Cantrell, Garry P.	6	1
Castillo, David	10	1
Castillo, David	10	1
Crampton, Holly Gail	14	1
De La Fuente, Jr., Oscar	15	1
Dugas, Evin G.	9	1
Durham, Susan H.	6	1
Grant, Bernard Jordan	6	1
Guerrero, Jose M.	10	1
Hennigan, Shanna	4	1
Honsaker, Mark L.	4	1
Joe, Dean Yongchurl	9	1
Kowis, Kelly Michael	3	1
Leas, Stephen T.	12	2

Lee, Clyde E.	1	1
Lipshy, Bruce A.	9	1
Madrigal, Pascual	10	1
Madrigal, Pascual	10	1
Morones, Jennifer Jackson	4	1
Soward, II, Joe Weldon	7	1
Soward, II, Joe Weldon	7	1
Stanley, Erin Elizabeth	4	2
Stokes, Joe Daniel	9	1
Thomas, Karyn A.	1	1
Thomas, Karyn A.	1	1
Vincent, Paul Thomas	7	1
Walsh, William A.	14	2
Washington, Craig A.	8	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Climmons, Gwendolyn F.	BODA	1
Mladek, Michelle Rene'e	BODA	1
Richards, IV, James William	BODA	1
Weigel, John Holman	BODA	1

Total	37	44
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PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	DISTRICT	Number of Complaints Resolved
Anderson-Sinville, Lakisha S.	2	1
Ford, Robert James	10	1
Garcia, Teresa	17	1
Harper, Beverly J.	4	1
Herring, Earl M.	12	1
Steele, Kyle C.	6	1
Total	6	6

PRIVATE REPRIMANDS

GRIEVANCE COMM.	NUMBER OF SANCTIONS	Number of Complaints Resolved
1	1	1
4	4	5
6	1	1
7	2	2
8	1	1
10	4	5
14	1	1
15	1	1
17	1	1
Total	16	18
Grievance Referral Program	25	25

GRAND TOTAL:	99	118
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DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS - CURRENT BAR YEAR

BAR YEARS		Total Sanctions		Total Complaints Resolved	
2014-2015	DISBARMENTS	28		48	
	RESIGNATIONS	19		54	
	SUSPENSIONS	111		146	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	32		34	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	65		71	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	63	318	63	416

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS - PREVIOUS BAR YEARS

BAR YEARS		Total Sanctions		Total Complaints Resolved	
2013-2014	DISBARMENTS	21		21	
	RESIGNATIONS	17		55	
	SUSPENSIONS	131		164	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	31		34	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	65		72	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	57	322	57	403
2012-2013	DISBARMENTS	39		51	
	RESIGNATIONS	24		46	
	SUSPENSIONS	122		160	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	37		40	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	89		91	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	56	367	56	444
2011-2012	DISBARMENTS	38		45	
	RESIGNATIONS	27		87	
	SUSPENSIONS	137		174	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	40		41	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	106		115	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	55	403	55	517

2010-2011	DISBARMENTS	28		52	
	RESIGNATIONS	23		101	
	SUSPENSIONS	157		254	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	40		50	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	77		82	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	46	371	46	585
2009-2010	DISBARMENTS	25		33	
	RESIGNATIONS	22		40	
	SUSPENSIONS	111		169	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	37		47	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	81		89	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	39	315	39	417
2008-2009	DISBARMENTS	32		43	
	RESIGNATIONS	26		104	
	SUSPENSIONS	127		189	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	46		54	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	68		73	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	36	335	36	499
2007-2008	DISBARMENTS	24		63	
	RESIGNATIONS	24		90	
	SUSPENSIONS	121		224	
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	28		35	
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	69		73	
	GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	33	299	33	518
2006-2007	DISBARMENTS	30			
	RESIGNATIONS	31			
	SUSPENSIONS	110			
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	62			
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	87	320		
2005-2006	DISBARMENTS	38			
	RESIGNATIONS	17			
	SUSPENSIONS	119			
	PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	62			
	PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	108	344		
	ORDER FOR REHABILITATION				

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE
REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 2015

DISTRICT 01:

LEE, CLYDE E.: #12113300

01/28/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION

02/08/2015-04/07/2015: SUSPENSION

04/08/2015-02/07/2020: PROBATION

On January 28, 2015, **Clyde E. Lee** [#12113300], 60, of Texarkana, received a 60-month, partially probated suspension, effective February 8, 2015, with the first two months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that on July 28, 2013, Complainant hired Lee for representation in a family law matter. In representing Complainant, Lee neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to provide any legal services for Complainant. Lee failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her family law matter. Lee failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant about her family law matter. Lee 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. Lee did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

Lee violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,442.50 in attorneys' fees and \$794.20 in direct expenses.

DALLAS ATTORNEY

03/03/2015-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 8.01(b)

for knowingly failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority

THOMAS, KARYN A.: #24070736

04/23/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION

04/01/2015-03/31/2016

On April 23, 2015, **Karyn A. Thomas** [#24070736], 36, of Plano, received a 12-month, fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that Thomas neglected the legal matter that Complainant entrusted to her. In addition, Thomas failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed and promptly comply with his reasonable requests for information. And, Thomas failed to respond to Complainant's grievance.

Thomas violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$1,382.55 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$300.00 in restitution.

THOMAS, KARYN A.: #24070736
05/20/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-05/31/2016

On May 20, 2015, **Karyn A. Thomas** [#24070736], 36, of Plano, received a 12-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that Thomas neglected the legal matter that Complainant entrusted to her. In addition, Thomas failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed and promptly comply with his reasonable requests for information. Also, Thomas failed to respond to Complainant's grievance.

Thomas violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,422.00 in attorneys' fees and \$1,500.00 in restitution.

DISTRICT 02:

ANDERSON-SINVILLE, LAKISHA S.: #24053073
05/01/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On May 1, 2015, **LaKisha S. Anderson-Sinville** [#24053073], 40, of Tyler, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 2 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in appellate and post-conviction matters, Anderson-Sinville 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 about his legal matter.

Anderson-Sinville violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). She was ordered to pay \$2,800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 03:

KOWIS, KELLY MICHAEL: #90001781
02/23/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/01/2015-03/31/2016: SUSPENSION
04/01/2016-3/31/2018: PROBATION

On February 23, 2015, **Kelly Michael Kowis** [#90001781], 46, of the Woodlands, received a three-year, partially probated suspension, effective April 1, 2015, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that in representing his clients, Kowis neglected the legal matter entrusted to him and failed to keep the clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matter. Kowis failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from his clients and failed to explain the status of their legal matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the clients to make informed decisions regarding the representation. Upon termination of the representation, Kowis failed to refund advance payment of fees that he had not earned. Kowis 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.

Kowis violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$5,455.00 in restitution and \$3,580.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 04:

**HOUSTON ATTORNEY
03/13/2015-PRIVATE REPRIMAND**

RULE 3.03(a)(5)

for knowingly offering or using evidence that the lawyer knows to be false;

**BRININGER, III, BLAIR BERNARD: #03002550
03/11/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/01/2015-06/30/2015: SUSPENSION
07/01/2015-10/01/2016: PROBATION**

On March 11, 2015, **Blair Bernard Bringer, III** [#03002550], 58, of Houston, accepted an 18-month, partially probated suspension, effective April 1, 2015, with the first three months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An Evidentiary Panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Bringer neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their cases, and failed to timely return client's files, papers and unearned fees upon termination.

Bringer violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d). He agreed to pay attorneys' fees and expenses in the amount of \$3,996.46.

**HOUSTON ATTORNEY
04/15/2015-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

**HARPER, BEVERELY J.: #14250450
04/07/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

On April 7, 2015, **Beverly J. Harper** [#14250450], 62, of Channelview, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that upon request by her client, Harper failed to promptly render a full account regarding his funds.

Harper violated Rule 1.14(b). She was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**HENNIGAN, SHANNA: #24036756
04/15/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
01/01/2015-10/31/2016: SUSPENSION
01/01/2016-10/31/2018: PROBATION**

On April 15, 2015, **Shanna Hennigan** [#24036756], 44, of Houston, accepted a three-year, partially probated suspension, effective November 1, 2015, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Hennigan neglected a legal matter, failed to keep her client reasonably informed about the status of the matter, and failed to promptly comply with her client's reasonable requests for information. Upon the termination of her representation, Hennigan failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Hennigan further violated a disciplinary judgment

and failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Hennigan violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$2,500.00 in restitution and \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

HONSAKER, MARK L.: #00795425
02/05/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
02/01/2015-07/31/2015

On February 5, 2015, **Mark L. Honsaker** [#00795425], 48, of Houston, received a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective February 1, 2015. The District Court of Harris County found that Honsaker violated Rule 8.04(a)(3) [prohibiting a lawyer from engaging in conduct involving misrepresentation].

Honsaker was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

HOUSTON ATTORNEY
04/17/2015-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

MORONES, JENNIFER JACKSON: #24046480
04/28/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/01/2015-10/31/2016

On April 28, 2015, **Jennifer Jackson Morones** [#24046480], 38, of Silsbee, accepted an 18-month, fully probated suspension, effective May 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that while a partner in the law firm in which another lawyer practiced, Morones violated the rules of professional conduct when, with knowledge of the other lawyer's misconduct, she knowingly failed to take reasonable remedial action to avoid or mitigate the consequences of the other lawyer's violation. Morones violated Rule 5.01(b). She was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

MURCHISON, HENSEL: #14681000
03/11/2015-RESIGNATION

On March 11, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Hensel Murchison** [#14681000], 77, of Houston. At the time of his resignation, there were pending disciplinary actions alleging that Murchison neglected the legal matters entrusted to him by his clients, failed to hold client or third persons fund separate from his own property in a trust account, failed to promptly deliver those funds to the client or third person, failed to keep property in which both he and another person claimed interest separate until there was an accounting and severance of their interest, engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Murchison violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.14(c), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8).

STANLEY, ERIN ELIZABETH: #24059264
05/07/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-05/31/2016: SUSPENSION
06/01/2016-05/31/2017: PROBATION

On May 7, 2015, **Erin Elizabeth Stanley** [#24059264], 32, of Houston, accepted a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2015, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, in representing two clients, Stanley neglected the legal matters entrusted to her, failed to keep her clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matters and to comply with reasonable requests for information, and, upon termination of representation, failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Stanley also failed to timely furnish to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Stanley violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution, \$1,250.00 in attorneys' fees and \$280.00 in direct expenses.

HOUSTON ATTORNEY
02/23/2015-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

DISTRICT 06:

BATTEN, GAIL NORMAN: #00790278
04/16/2015-DISBARMENT

On April 16, 2015, **Gail Norman Batten** [#00790278], 77, of Dallas, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in an immigration matter, Batten neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to file an Application for Cancellation of Removal of Certain Permanent Residents as instructed by the Court, and by not filing any motion to request an extension of time to file the Application for relief.

Batten violated Rule 1.01(b)(1). He was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$2,045.69 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

CANTRELL, GARRY P.: #00789200
04/27/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/27/2015-07/27/2015

On April 27, 2015, **Garry P. Cantrell** [#00789200], 56, of Dallas, received a three-month, fully probated suspension, effective April 27, 2015. The 162nd District Court of Dallas County found that Cantrell committed professional misconduct by violating Rule 1.02(a)(2) [a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions whether to accept an offer of settlement], 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], and Rule 1.04(d) [upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client with a written statement describing the outcome of the matter and, if there is a recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its determination]. Cantrell was ordered

to pay \$2,250.00 in attorneys' fees and costs. Cantrell did not file an appeal.

DURHAM, SUSAN H.: #06281600
04/29/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/01/2015-04/30/2016: SUSPENSION
05/01/2016-04/30/2017: PROBATION

On April 29, 2015, **Susan H. Durham** [#06281600], 63, of Dallas, received a 24-month, partially probated suspension, effective May 1, 2015, with the first twelve (12) months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that on or about October 3, 2012, Complainant hired Durham to represent her in a divorce action. In representing Complainant, Durham neglected the legal matter entrusted to her by failing to provide legal services and failing to file the divorce petition. Durham failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant about the divorce case. Durham also failed to hold separate from Durham's own property those funds belonging to Complainant and that were in Durham's possession in connection with the representation. Upon termination of representation, Durham failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Durham engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation by attempting to have Complainant sign a fraudulent Affidavit of Indigence.

Durham violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(3). She was ordered to pay \$1,400.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$1,365.00 in restitution.

GRANT, BERNARD JORDAN: #24031635
03/03/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/01/2015-09/30/2015

On March 3, 2015, **Bernard Jordan Grant** [#24031635], 42, of Irving, received a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in a foreclosure matter, Grant neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to provide the agreed upon legal services. Grant engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation by representing to Complainant that a petition had been filed in the matter, when it had not.

Grant violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$1,497.63 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

HODGES, JR., HUGH M.: #09767000
03/17/2015-DISBARMENT

On March 17, 2015, **Hugh M. Hodges, Jr.** [#09767000], 70, of Dallas, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that the Complainant hired Hodges to represent Complainant's son in a criminal matter. Hodges engaged in the practice of law when his right to practice had been suspended under the terms of a disciplinary judgment, engaged in the practice of law when his right to practice had been administratively suspended for failure to comply with Article XII of the State Bar Rules relating to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education, and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation by not informing Complainant and Complainant's son that he was not eligible to practice law.

Hodges violated Rules 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$1,516.45 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**DALLAS ATTORNEY
03/30/2015-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

**O'LAUGHLIN, FREDERICK J.: #15241770
04/28/2015-RESIGNATION**

On April 28, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Frederick J. O'Laughlin** [#15241770], 60 of Dallas. At the time of his resignation, there were pending disciplinary actions alleging O'Laughlin neglected the legal matters entrusted to him by his clients; failed respond to clients' requests for information regarding the status of their matters; failed to return documents belonging to the clients; and failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel responses or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

O'Laughlin violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8).

**SIEGEL, ANDREW LEE: #18341825
04/14/2015-RESIGNATION**

On April 14, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Andrew Lee Siegel** [#18341825], 55, of Dallas. At the time of Siegel's resignation, there were two pending cases against him. Siegel was retained to prepare a Private Placement Memorandum and subscription agreement. The Private Placement Memorandum was created, which authorized the sale of up to \$2,000,000 of common stock. Siegel collected approximately \$1,595,000.00 from a total of thirty-five (35) investors for the sale of stock certificates. Of the total of \$1,595,000.00 of investor funds Siegel collected, Siegel concealed that he unlawfully used for his personal benefit up to \$410,000.00. Siegel unlawfully used \$175,000.00 to issue himself 700,000 shares of the stock. When confronted, Siegel created fraudulent and fictitious email(s) which falsely represented to the client that Siegel attempted to wire transfer \$185,000.00 from Respondent's bank account to the client's bank account. Siegel engaged in this fraudulent conduct in order to deceive the client and convince them that Siegel was making a good faith effort to transfer investor funds to the client. Siegel was an equity partner in the law firm of SMM, and during employment, Siegel accepted a fee of \$5,000.00, individually, in payment for legal services. Siegel did not have authority to bill or accept funds from the client in his individual capacity, only on behalf of SMM. Siegel failed to respond to the client's requests for information regarding the status of the representation. When the client obtained their file from SMM, they learned that Siegel had done no discernible legal work. The client demanded a refund of unearned fees and other expenses incurred on the advice of Siegel. SMM paid the client \$50,000 in settlement of the client's claim. Siegel signed up three clients with SMM named Elephant Lamp I, LLC, Elephant Lamp II, LLC, and Elephant Lamp, III, LLC.

All three entities were owned by Siegel. Siegel used SMM attorneys and staff to perform legal work for the three Elephant Lamp clients and then wrote off the fees owed to SMM by the three clients without SMM's knowledge or consent. Alleged Rules Violated: 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 8.04(a)(2) and 8.04(a)(3). After leaving SMM, Siegel joined the law firm of SS. Siegel was retained by a client to complete the sale of a printing business. As part of the sale, \$400,000.00 was required to be held in escrow. The Escrow Agreement required that the \$400,000.00 be held in the escrow account for one year. During that one-year period, Siegel transferred \$210,000.00 from the escrow account to settle a personal lawsuit without authorization.

Additionally, Siegel transferred \$65,000.00 from the escrow account without authorization from the client. Siegel falsely stated that he was investing the funds he removed from the escrow account. When Siegel was confronted about the missing escrow account monies, he refunded approximately \$285,000.00 into the escrow account.

Alleged Rules Violated: 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 8.04(a)(1) and 8.04(a)(3).

STEELE, KYLE C.: #00791722
02/16/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On February 16, 2015, **Kyle C. Steele** [#00791722], 47, of Dallas, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that, in connection with a civil suit involving Complainant as a plaintiff, and Steele as legal counsel for the opposing party, Steele knowingly made a false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal.

Steele violated Rules 3.03(a)(1). He was ordered to pay \$1,760.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 07:

ALBERTSON, RAYMOND B.: #00971600
05/06/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/01/2015-07/31/2015

On May 6, 2015, **Raymond B. Albertson** [#00971600], 53, of Fort Worth, agreed to a three-month, fully probated suspension, effective May 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 7 Grievance Committee found that Albertson, in representing Complainant in a civil matter, failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of the civil matter by failing to inform Complainant of the Motion for Summary Judgment. Albertson engaged in the practice of law when he was administratively suspended for noncompliance with the Supreme Court rules concerning membership dues, the attorney occupation tax, and Continuing Legal Education Requirements.

Albertson violated Rules 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$1,276.40 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

BARNES, GEORGE MICHAEL: #01767100
02/26/2015-ACTIVE SUSPENSION
03/01/2015-05/31/2017

On February 26, 2015, **George Michael Barnes** [#01767100], 60, of Fort Worth, received a 27-month, active suspension, effective March 1, 2015.

The District 7 Grievance Committee found that Barnes 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.

Barnes violated Rule 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,875.98 in attorneys' fees.

DALLAS ATTORNEY
02/09/2015-PRIVATE REPRIMAND

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

LITTLE, DANIEL CHARLES: #24047534
02/09/2015-DISBARMENT

On February 9, 2015, **Daniel Charles Little** [#24047534], 56, of Hurst, was disbarred. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in her legal matter with the city of Decatur, Little neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to send the City of Decatur a demand letter and failing to perform any other legal services on Complainant's behalf. Upon termination of representation in Complainant's legal matter, Little failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Little 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.

Little violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,341.26 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$750.00 in restitution. Little filed an appeal on March 10, 2015.

D0121144539

LITTLE, DANIEL CHARLES: #24047534
02/09/2015-DISBARMENT

On February 9, 2015, **Daniel Charles Little** [#24047534], 56, of Hurst, was disbarred. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in two traffic citations, Little neglected the legal matters entrusted to him by failing to inform Complainant of the trial date and failing to attend the trial. Little failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of his legal matters and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant. Upon termination of representation in Complainant's traffic citations, Little failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Little 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.

Little violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,327.26 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$300.00 in restitution. Little filed an appeal on March 10, 2015.

D0021142416

DALLAS ATTORNEY
04/16/2015-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

SOWARD, II, JOE WELDON: #90001760
02/20/2015-ACTIVE SUSPENSION
03/10/2015-03/09/2019

On February 20, 2015, **Joe Weldon Soward, II** [#90001760], 45, of Fort Worth, agreed to a four-year, active suspension, effective March 10, 2015.

The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in the course of representing Complainant in a personal injury matter, Soward settled the lawsuit for \$7,228.00 without the knowledge or consent of Complainant. Soward signed Complainant's name to the settlement check without the knowledge or consent of Complainant. Soward failed to withhold any of the settlement funds to pay Complainant's medical bills. After Soward settled Complainant's lawsuit, Soward issued a \$2,500.00 check to Complainant and misrepresented that the check was an advance

payment against the future settlement of her lawsuit. Soward failed to hold Complainant's funds in an IOLTA account. Soward failed to return Complainant's file after she made a written request. Soward failed to provide to Complainant information on the progress and outcome of the lawsuit. Soward failed to provide Complainant with an accounting of how settlement funds were spent by Soward. Soward offered Complainant \$3,000.00 if she agreed to release Soward from all liability to her regarding his legal representation in the personal injury case. Soward failed to respond to the complaint in writing and failed to provide good cause for his failure to do so.

Soward violated Rules 1.02(a)(2), 1.03(a), 1.04(d), 1.08(g), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.14(c), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(1), 8.04(a)(3) and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,200.00 in attorneys' fees and \$4,728.00 in restitution.

D0101144256

SOWARD, II, JOE WELDON: #90001760
02/20/2015-ACTIVE SUSPENSION
03/10/2015-03/09/2019

On February 20, 2015, **Joe Weldon Soward, II** [#90001760], 45, of Fort Worth, agreed to a four-year, active suspension, effective March 10, 2015. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant, Soward was paid \$3,000.00 to substitute into an ongoing probate matter pending in Probate Court No. 1, Tarrant County, Texas. Soward failed to do any meaningful legal work on behalf of the estate in the probate matter. Upon request from Complainant, Soward failed to return unearned attorneys' fees and failed to respond to Complainant's refund request. Soward failed to respond to the complaint in writing and failed to provide good cause for his failure to do so.

Soward violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.15(d) and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,200.00 in attorneys' fees and \$3,000.00 in restitution.

D0041245388

VINCENT, PAUL THOMAS: #24060777
04/15/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/01/2015-03/16/2016

On April 15, 2015, **Paul Thomas Vincent** [#24060777], 41, of Waxahachie, received a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2015. In October 2012, Complainant hired Vincent for representation in a civil matter. In representing Complainant, Vincent neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to appear at the court's final setting for trial. Vincent failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant about his civil matter. In addition, Vincent failed to timely furnish a response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure or assert any grounds for his failure to do so.

Vincent violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a) and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,686.23 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$500.00 in restitution.

DISTRICT 08:

WASHINGTON, CRAIG A.: #20901000
01/08/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
01/15/2015-01/14/2016: SUSPENSION
01/15/2016-01/14/2019: PROBATION

On January 8, 2015, **Craig A. Washington** [#20901000], 73, of Bastrop, received a four-year, partially probated suspension, with eighteen months active. The 335th District Court of Bastrop County found that Washington committed professional misconduct by violating Rule 1.01(b)(1) [neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer]; Rule 1.03(a) [failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information]; 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 a fee that has not been earned]; and Rule 8.04(a)(3) [engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation]. On March 12, 2015, a modified judgment was entered imposing a four-year partially probated suspension with twelve months active.

Washington was ordered to pay \$24,693.74 in attorneys' fees and costs. Washington has filed an appeal.

AUSTIN ATTORNEY
04/13/2015-PRIVATE REPRIMAND

RULE 4.03(a)

when the lawyer knows or should know that the unrepresented person misunderstands the lawyer's role in the matter, the lawyer shall make reasonable efforts to correct the misunderstanding.

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

DISTRICT 09:

DUGAS, EVIN G.: #06172950
03/13/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
03/05/2015-03/04/2016

On March 13, 2015, **Evin G. Dugas** [#06172950], 54, of Austin, received a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective March 5, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that Complainant hired Dugas to represent her in a suit against a home builder for defective construction. Dugas filed suit in March of 2010, against Matrix Homes, L.L.C. ("Matrix") and the manager of Matrix. Matrix and the manager filed special exceptions and the manager filed a motion for partial summary judgment but Dugas failed to file any response to either. A partial summary judgment was granted wherein the Court found that the manager was not a proper party to the suit and denied all claims against him. Additionally, Dugas failed to timely respond to written discovery requests. An order compelling responses and awarding six hundred dollars (\$600) as sanctions was entered in 2011. Dugas took no further action on the case until March 2014, when he filed a request for a jury trial and set the matter for trial. The matter was tried in April of 2014. Complainant obtained a judgment against Matrix. However, as of September 2013, Matrix was no longer a viable entity able to conduct business in Texas. Complainant and her husband attempted on numerous occasions between 2011 and 2014 to contact Dugas by telephone and email regarding the status of the case but Dugas failed to respond.

Dugas violated Rule 1.03(a). Dugas was ordered to pay \$6,598.25 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses. Dugas has filed an appeal.

JOE, DEAN YONGCHURL: #24053287
04/10/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/15/2015-04/14/2017

On April 10, 2015, **Dean Yongchurl Joe** [#24053287], 38, of Austin, received a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective April 15, 2015. The 98th District Court of Travis County found that Joe violated Rule 1.03(a) which prohibits lawyers from failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; Rule 1.04(d), which requires that upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client with a written statement describing the outcome of the matter and, if there is a recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its determination; Rule 1.14(a) which requires a lawyer to hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients that are in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property; Rule 1.14(b) which requires a lawyer upon receiving funds or other property in which a client has an interest, to promptly notify the client and promptly deliver to the client any funds that the client is entitled to receive; and Rule 8.04(a)(1), which prohibits lawyers from violating the disciplinary rules.

Joe was ordered to pay \$1,010.00 in attorneys' fees and costs and \$4,733.00 in restitution to Complainant.

LIPSHY, BRUCE A.: #12413000
04/01/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/01/2015-03/31/2017

On April 1, 2015, **Bruce A. Lipshy** [#12413000], 73, of Austin, received an agreed judgment of fully probated suspension, The 98th District Court of Travis County found that Lipshy violated Rule 1.14(b) by failing to render a full accounting, Rule 1.14(c) for disbursing funds to persons not entitled to receive them, and Rule 8.04(a)(1), which prohibits lawyers from violating the disciplinary rules. Lipshy was ordered to pay \$20,000.00 in restitution and \$4,402.62 in attorneys' fees and costs.

RISLEY, JOHN HAROLD: #16941150
05/12/2015-RESIGNATION

On May 12, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **John Harold Risley** [#16941150], 50, of Houston, Texas. At the time of Risley's resignation, an Order of Deferred Adjudication had been entered in the 176th District Court of Harris County, Texas, wherein Risley pled guilty to Misapplication of Fiduciary Property > \$100,000/Elderly, a First Degree Felony, and was placed on Community Supervision for a period of 5 years. Risley was further ordered to pay court costs in the amount of \$227.00 and restitution in the total amount of \$9,325.55. Risley was further ordered to surrender his law license and not practice law as a condition of community supervision. This conviction would subject Risley to compulsory discipline.

SEPTOWSKI, CHARLES D.: #18032325
03/03/2015-DISBARMENT

On March 3, 2015, **Charles D. Septowski** [#18032325], 60, of Austin, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that Septowski was actively suspended from the practice of law from May through July of 2013, pursuant to a disciplinary judgment. While suspended, Septowski filed or caused to be filed pleadings on behalf of clients in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division ("Bankruptcy Court"). On several documents Septowski signed, or caused to be signed, another attorney's name as the attorney submitting the pleading. The other attorney did not authorize Septowski, or anyone else, to sign her name to the documents or pleadings.

The Bankruptcy Court held two hearings to review the transactions of the attorneys. During those hearings, Septowski made several material misrepresentations to the Court. Specifically, he claimed that the other attorney had agreed to participate in the bankruptcy matter, that she had been an associate of the firm, and that his paralegal or the other attorney handled matters during his suspension. During the second hearing, Septowski admitted that he had instructed the bankruptcy paralegal to file the documents and pleadings.

After his active suspension was over, Septowski filed a *pro hac vice* application in the Bankruptcy Court. In that application, Septowski misrepresented his disciplinary history.

Before his suspension, Septowski represented another debtor in the same Bankruptcy Court. He was not admitted to practice in the Northern District and did he did not file an application to be admitted *pro hac vice* in the case.

Further, while suspended, Septowski sent numerous emails to opposing counsel in a case pending in the 191st Judicial District Court of Dallas County, Texas.

In 2013, Septowski claimed an exemption from the Attorney Occupation Tax as an out-of-state attorney, not practicing law in Texas, even though he had cases pending in several courts in Texas. Further, Septowski used the firm name "Septowski & Associates" when he had no other attorneys as associates in his firm.

Septowski violated Rules: 3.03(a)(1), 7.01(d), 8.04(a)(1), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(11) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, Article X, Section 9, State Bar Rules. Septowski was ordered to pay \$23,079.72 in attorneys' fees and expenses. Septowski has filed an appeal.

STOKES, JOE DANIEL: #19274500
05/12/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
12/18/2014-07/07/2015: SUSPENSION
07/08/2015-01/07/2018: PROBATION

On May 12, 2015, **Joe Daniel Stokes, III** [#19274500], 67, of Austin, received a three-year, partially probated suspension, effective December 18, 2014, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that in March 2011, Complainant hired Stokes to probate Complainant's mother's estate. Stokes failed to timely file the Inventory, Appraisal and List of Claims. On February 21, 2012, and again on March 16, 2012, the Probate Court One of Travis County, Texas sent Stokes a notice that the inventory was overdue and set the matter for a Compliance Hearing. A year later, when Stokes had not complied with the requirement to file the inventory, the Probate Court served Complainant and Stokes with an Order to Show Cause why Complainant should not be removed as Independent Executor and ordering all costs associated with the citation taxed against Complainant. Prior to the scheduled show cause hearing, Respondent filed an inventory for the estate. The estate received a refund check for \$67.50 that was given to Stokes. Stokes lost or misplaced the check and failed to give the funds to Complainant for the estate. Stokes failed to respond to Complainant's numerous requests for information from July 2013 through December 2013. Complainant, through his new counsel, requested his file from Stokes but Stokes failed to surrender the file as requested. Stokes further failed to furnish a written response to the complaint as directed.

Stokes violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 3.02, 8.04(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(8). Stokes was ordered to pay \$2,133.20 in attorney's fees and direct expenses and \$67.50 in restitution to Complainant.

VILLALOBOS, ARMANDO ROBERTO: #00788584
04/28/2015-RESIGNATION

On April 28, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Armando Roberto Villalobos** [#00788584], 47, of Brownsville, Texas. At the time of Villalobos's resignation, a Judgment in a

Criminal Case had been entered in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Holding Session in Brownsville, wherein Villalobos was found guilty of Count 1s - Participating in Conduct and Affairs of a Criminal Enterprise, the Activities which Affected Interstate and Foreign Commerce, through a Pattern of Racketeering Activity – Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO), Count 2s – Conspiracy to Participate in Conduct and Affairs of a Criminal Enterprise, the Activities which Affected Interstate and Foreign Commerce, through a Pattern of Racketeering Activity, Count 4s - Extortion (Under color of Official Right) and Aiding and Abetting, Count 5s - Extortion (Under color of Official Right) and Aiding and Abetting, Count 6s - Extortion (Under color of Official Right) and Aiding and Abetting, and Count 9s - Extortion (Under color of Official Right) and Aiding and Abetting, and was committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of 156 months on each count, to be served concurrently. Respondent was ordered upon release from imprisonment to be on supervised release for 3 years on each count, to be served concurrently, ordered to perform 150 hours of community service, ordered to pay an assessment of \$600.00, a fine of \$30,000.00 and restitution of \$339,000.00. This conviction would subject Villalobos to compulsory discipline.

DISTRICT 10:

BUSH, KIMBERLY LYNN: #24047231
04/06/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
04/15/2015-04/14/2017

On April 6, 2015, **Kimberly Lynn Bush** [#24047231], 50, of San Antonio, accepted a two-year, fully probated suspension, effective April 15, 2015. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Bush violated a prior disciplinary judgment by failing to pay restitution and fees timely, failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, and failed to respond to the grievance.

Bush violated Rules 8.01(b), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(8).

CASTILLO, DAVID: #03984700
03/30/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/01/2015-08/31/2016

On March 30, 2015, **David Castillo** [#03984700], 54, of San Antonio, accepted a 16-month, fully probated suspension, effective May 1, 2015. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Castillo neglected a client's matter.

Castillo violated Rule 1.01 (b)(1).

CASTILLO, DAVID: #03984700
04/07/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/01/2015-08/31/2016

On April 7, 2015, **David Castillo** [#03984700], 54, of San Antonio, accepted a 16-month, fully probated suspension, effective May 1, 2015. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Castillo neglected a client's matter and failed to keep a client reasonably informed.

Castillo violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a).

FORD, ROBERT JAMES: #00798184
05/20/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On May 20, 2015, **Robert James Ford** [#00798180], 52, of San Antonio, accepted a judgment of public reprimand. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Ford failed to keep a client reasonably informed, failed to hold client's funds in a trust account separate from his own property and failed to promptly deliver funds to parties entitled to receive funds.

Ford violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(a), (b), and (c) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

GUERRERO, JOSE M.: #08581425
04/20/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-02/28/2016: SUSPENSION
03/01/2016-05/31/2017: PROBATION

On April 20, 2015, **Jose M. Guerrero** [#08581425], 41, of San Antonio, accepted a two-year, partially probated suspension, with the first nine months actively served, effective June 1, 2015. The 73rd District Court of Bexar found that in an immigration representation Guerrero violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) [neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], 1.03(a) [failing to communicate with a client], 1.14(a) [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], 1.15(d) [upon termination of representation, failing to surrender papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payments of fee that has not been earned], 8.04(a)(7) [violating any disciplinary or disability order or judgment]

Guerrero was ordered to pay \$2,400.00 in restitution and \$2,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
05/11/2015-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

MADRIGAL, PASCUAL: #12802150
05/28/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-11/30/2015

On May 28, 2015, **Pascual Madrigal** [#12802150], 60, of San Antonio, accepted a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2015. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that in an immigration representation Madrigal failed to keep a client reasonable informed, failed to return a client's file, failed to return an unearned fee, failed to exercise independent judgment and render proper advice and violated the advertising rules by failing to have prior approval for his law firm's website.

Madrigal violated Rules 1.15(d), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 2.01, 7.02(a)(3), and 7.07(c).

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MADRIGAL, PASCUAL: #12802150
05/28/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-11/30/2015

On May 28, 2015, **Pascual Madrigal** [#12802150], 60, of San Antonio, accepted a six-month, fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2015. The District 10 Grievance Committee found that Madrigal failed to return a client's file.

Madrigal violated Rule 1.15(d).

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SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
04/08/2015-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

SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
04/15/2015-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

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

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

SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
05/12/2015-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 11:

GONZALEZ, JUAN P.: #08129500
03/26/2015-DISBARMENT

On March 26, 2015, **Juan P. Gonzalez** [#08129500], 65, of Corpus Christi, was disbarred. The District 11 Grievance Committee found that Gonzalez neglected a client's matter, failed to keep his client reasonably informed, failed to hold client's funds in a trust or escrow account, failed to return unearned fees, failed to comply with the terms of a prior disciplinary judgment and also failed to respond to the grievance timely.

Gonzalez violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)&(b), 1.14(a)&(b), 1.15(d), 8.01(b), and 8.04(a)(7)&(8) and was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in restitution and \$2,580.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

MATZKE, BRUCE: #13234475
04/14/2015-RESIGNATION

On April 14, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Bruce Matzke** [#13234475], 64, of Corpus Christi. At the time of resignation, there was one disciplinary action pending alleging Matzke neglected a client's matter, failed to keep client reasonable informed, failed to hold fees in trust, failed to return unearned fees and failed to return a client's file.

Matzke violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a) and 1.15(d).

DISTRICT 12:

CANALES, OLIVERO E.: #03737200
05/04/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
07/01/2015-06/30/2016

On May 4, 2015, **Olivero E. Canales** [#03737200], 62, of Laredo, accepted a one-year, fully probated suspension, effective July 1, 2015. The District 12 Grievance Committee found that Canales neglected clients' matters, failed to keep clients reasonably informed and failed to return unearned fees.

Canales violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)&(b), and 1.15(d) and was ordered to pay \$500.00 attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

HERRING, EARL M.: #09534140
05/07/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On May 7, 2015, **Earl M. Herring** [#09534140], 53, of Eagle Pass, accepted a judgment of public reprimand. The 293rd District Court of Maverick found that Herring violated Rule 5.03(a) [A lawyer having direct supervisory authority over the non-lawyer shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the persons conduct is compatible with the professional obligations of the lawyer]. Herring was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees.

LEAS, STEPHEN T.: #12095255
12/03/2014-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
12/03/2014-12/02/2019: SUSPENSION
12/03/2019-12/03/2029: PROBATION

On December 3, 2014, **Stephen T. Leas** [#12095255], 60, of McAllen, received a 15-year, partially probated

suspension, effective December 3, 2014, with the first five years actively served and the remainder probated. The District 12 Grievance Committee found that Leas engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation and violated a prior disciplinary judgment by engaging in the practice of law while his law license was suspended.

Leas violated Rules 8.04(a)(1),(3),(7), and (11). He was ordered to pay \$6,923.45 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 14:

CRAMPTON, HOLLY GAIL: #05004500
12/19/2014-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
01/01/2015-12/31/2015: SUSPENSION
01/01/2016-12/31/2016: PROBATION

On December 19, 2014, **Holly Gail Crampton** [#05004500], 66, of Wichita Falls, received a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective January 1, 2015, with the first year actively served and the remainder probated. The 30th District Court of Wichita County found that Crampton committed Professional Misconduct by violating Rules 1.01(b)(1) [prohibiting a lawyer from neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], 1.01(b)(2) [prohibiting a lawyer from frequently failing to carry out completely the obligations that the lawyer owes to a client], and 1.15(a)(1) [requiring a lawyer to decline representation of a client or, where representation has commenced, to withdraw 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].

Crampton was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$5,000.00 and \$7,500.00 in restitution. Crampton filed a notice of appeal on January 20, 2015.

DALLAS ATTORNEY
04/15/2015-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 1.15(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

WALSH, WILLIAM A.: #00794816
04/06/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
03/01/2015-08/31/2016

On April 6, 2015, **William A. Walsh** [#00794816], 69, of Fort Worth, received an 18-month, fully probated suspension, effective March 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that Walsh engaged in the practice of law when his right to practice had been administratively suspended for non-compliance with the Supreme Court rules concerning repayment of Texas Guaranteed Student Loans.

Walsh violated Rule 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$5,192.70 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses. Walsh did not file an appeal.

DISTRICT 15:

BROOKS, ROSS PATTON: #24045563
01/27/2015-DISBARMENT

On January 27, 2015, **Ross Patton Brooks** [#24045563], 41, of Kyle, was disbarred. The District 15 Grievance Committee found that Brooks neglected a clients' matter, failed to keep clients reasonably informed and failed to respond to grievances.

Brooks violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)&(b), 8.01(b), & 8.04(a)(8) and was ordered to pay \$225.00 in restitution and \$3,789.66 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
03/19/2015-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

DE LA FUENTE, JR., OSCAR: #05645575
03/23/2015-PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
06/01/2015-11/30/2015: SUSPENSION
12/01/2015-05/31/2017: PROBATION

On March 23, 2015, **Oscar De La Fuente, Jr.** [#08440920], 54, of Harlingen, agreed to a two-year, partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2015, with the first six-months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 15 Grievance Committee found that De La Fuente sought to influence a tribunal concerning a pending matter by means prohibited by law or applicable rules of practice or procedure, engaged in an ex parte communication with a tribunal for the purpose of influencing the tribunal concerning a pending matter, engaged in conduct that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness of fitness as a lawyer and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

De La Fuente violated Rules 3.05(a) & (b), 4.01(b), and 8.04(a)(1) & (3) and was ordered to pay \$5,000.00 attorneys' fees and expenses.

DISTRICT 17:

SAN ANTONIO ATTORNEY
04/27/2015-PRIVATE REPRIMAND

RULE 1.04(a)

for entering into an arrangement for, charging or collecting an illegal fee or unconscionable fee

RULE 1.06(b)(2)

for representing a person where the representation of that person reasonably appears to be or become adversely limited by the lawyer's or law firm's responsibilities to another client or to a third person or by the lawyer's or law firm's own interests

RULE 4.04(a)

in representing a client, for using means that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person, or use methods of obtaining evidence that violate the legal right of such a person.

GARCIA, TERESA: #07646580
02/26/2015-PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On February 26, 2015, **Teresa Garcia** [#07646580], 49, of El Paso, accepted a public reprimand. The District 17 Grievance Committee found that Garcia engaged in the practice of law while her law license was administratively suspended.

Garcia violated Rules 8.04(a)(11) and agreed to pay \$850.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

GUERRA-CAVAZOS, BOBBIE MARIE: #24007284
04/21/2015-DISBARMENT

On April 21, 2015, **Bobbie Marie Guerra-Cavazos** [#24007284], 41, of El Paso, was disbarred. The District 17 Grievance Committee found Guerra-Cavazos neglected clients' matters, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed, failed to hold client's funds in a trust account, failed to promptly deliver funds that a client was entitled to receive, failed to refund unearned fees, violated the terms of a disciplinary judgment, practiced law while law license was suspended and failed to respond to a grievance timely.

Guerra-Cavazos violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a)&(b), 1.14(a)&(b), 1.15(d), 8.01(b), and 8.04(a)(8),(10) and (11) and was ordered to pay \$500.00 in restitution and \$3,908.80 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS:

ANDRES, ROBERT JOSEPH: #01237450
05/04/2015-DISBARMENT

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a Judgment of Disbarment against Houston attorney **Robert Joseph Andres**, 64, State Bar of Texas Card No. 01237450. On or about December 17, 2014, Andres pled guilty to wire fraud, an Intentional Crime as defined in the TEXAS RULES OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE, in case number DUTX 2:11CR00985-001 RJS, styled, *United States of America v. Robert J. Andres*, in the United States District Court, District of Utah. Andres was sentenced to 56 months in the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons, followed by supervised release for three years. He was ordered to pay an assessment in the amount of \$100.00 and restitution in the amount of \$3,291,310.39 Mr. Andres answered and appeared at the hearing.

CLIMMONS, GWENDOLYN F.: #04390000
05/04/2015-INTERLOCUTORY SUSPENSION

On May 4, 2015 the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an interlocutory order of suspension against Houston attorney **Gwendolyn F. Climmons**, 55, State Bar of Texas Card No. 04390000. On or about June 13, 2014 Ms. Climmons was convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit healthcare fraud and four counts of health care fraud, aiding and abetting, Intentional Crimes as defined in the TEXAS RULES OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE, and sentenced to incarceration for 97 months, followed by supervised release for three years, and ordered to pay an assessment of \$500.00 and restitution on the amount of \$972,132.22 in *United States of America v. Gwendolyn Climmons-Johnson*, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Holding Session in Houston. Climmons has appealed her criminal conviction. Climmons answered the petition but did not appear at the hearing. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeal is final.

MLADEK, MICHELLE RENE'E: #24046455
05/04/2015-FULLY PROBATED SUSPENSION
05/04/2015-05/30/2017

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of fully probated suspension of Ruidoso attorney **Michelle Rene'e Mladek**, 50, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24046455. Ms. Mladek received a two-year fully probated suspension from the practice of law and a public censure from the Supreme Court of New Mexico on or about February 18, 2015 in No. 32,554, *In the Matter of Michelle Renee Mladek, Esquire, An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law Before the Courts of New Mexico*. She is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for two years, beginning May 4, 2015. The suspension is deferred and she is placed on probation for two years. Ms. Mladek appeared at the hearing.

RICHARDS, IV, JAMES WILLIAM: #00797313
05/04/2015-INTERLOCUTORY SUSPENSION

On May 4, 2015 the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an interlocutory order of suspension against Medford, New Jersey attorney **James Williams Richards IV**, 44, State Bar of Texas Card No. 00797313. On or about April 26, 2013 Mr. Richards was court-martialed after being found guilty of child pornography and sexual abuse of a child, Intentional Crimes as defined in the TEXAS RULES OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE. He was also found guilty of failure to obey an order and was sentenced to incarceration in the Air Force Correction System for 17 years, ordered to forfeit all pay and allowances and dismissed from the service in *United States v. Lieutenant Colonel James W. Richards IV*, Cause No. 38346 in the Department of the Air Force Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Joint Base Randolph, Texas 78150-45344. Mr. Richards has appealed his criminal conviction. Richards did not answer or appear at the hearing. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeal is final.

WEIGEL, JOHN HOLMAN: #24013726
05/04/2015-ACTIVE SUSPENSION
05/04/2015-05/03/2017

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of suspension of Houston attorney **John Holman Weigel**, 41, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24013726. Mr. Weigel was suspended from the practice of law for two years by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma on or about February 4, 2014 in *State of Oklahoma ex rel. Oklahoma Bar Association, Complainant v. John Holman Weigel, Respondent*, SCBD 5864. He is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for two years, beginning May 4, 2015. Weigel answered and was noticed to appear, but did not appear at the hearing.