

SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014

THE COURT MADE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MISCELLANEOUS RECORD

M.R.25901 - In re: John P. Edmonds. Disciplinary Commission.

The amended petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board is denied without prejudice to refile a petition within twenty-eight (28) days; the Administrator is directed to review paragraphs 78 and 79 of the Court's opinion in *In re Karavidas*, 2013 IL 115767, as those paragraphs relate to the Administrator's decision to amend his petition for leave to file exceptions and not pursue exceptions to the Review Board's findings that respondent did not breach his fiduciary duty in Counts II, III and V; specifically:

"...an attorney's breach of fiduciary duty or conversion does not, standing alone, warrant the imposition of professional discipline. ...discipline for conduct occurring outside the attorney-client relationship should be limited to situations where the attorney's conduct violates the Rules by demonstrating "a lack of professional or personal honesty which render[s] him unworthy of public confidence."
[citation omitted].

In sum, we hold that professional discipline may be imposed only upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the respondent attorney has violated one or more of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Mere bad behavior that does not violate one of the Rules is insufficient."

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26040 - In re: Harry Albert Turkington. Disciplinary Commission.

The motion by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to approve and confirm the report and recommendation of the Hearing Board is allowed. The petition by petitioner Harry Albert Turkington for reinstatement to the roll of attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 767 is allowed.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26462 - In re: Richard J. Forst. Disciplinary Commission.

The motion by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to approve and confirm the report and recommendation of the Hearing Board is allowed, and respondent Richard J. Forst is suspended from the practice of law for four (4) months.

Suspension effective April 4, 2014.

Respondent Richard J. Forst shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26490 - In re: John Frank Harris. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board is allowed. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years, with the suspension effective date retroactive to March 28, 2012.

Respondent John Frank Harris shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26514 - In re: Ross Lee Haith II. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by respondent Ross Lee Haith II for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board is denied. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for six (6) months and until further order of the Court, and required to successfully complete the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission Professionalism Seminar as a condition of reinstatement, as recommended by the Review Board.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26516 - In re: Kenneth Karl Ditkowsky. Disciplinary Commission.

The motion by respondent Kenneth Karl Ditkowsky for leave to supplement his reply to the Administrator's answer to petition for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board instanter is allowed.

Order entered by the Court.

The petition by respondent Kenneth Karl Ditkowsky for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board is denied. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for four (4) years and until further order of the Court, as recommended by the Review Board.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26518 - In re: Reema Nicki Bajaj. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to impose discipline on consent pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(b) is allowed, and respondent Reema Nicki Bajaj is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years and until further order of the Court.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26528 - In re: Michael Joseph Finn. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to impose discipline on consent pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(b) is allowed, and respondent Michael Joseph Finn is suspended from the practice of law for sixty (60) days and until he pays restitution in the amount of \$5,000 to Bergline Clark.

Suspension effective April 4, 2014.

Respondent Michael Joseph Finn shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26540 - In re: Jesse Raymond Gilsdorf. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by respondent Jesse Raymond Gilsdorf for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board is denied. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for five (5) months, as recommended by the Review Board.

Suspension effective April 4, 2014.

Respondent Jesse Raymond Gilsdorf shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26557 - In re: Jason Scott Landgraf. Disciplinary Commission.

The motion by Jason Scott Landgraf to strike his name from the roll of attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(a) is allowed, effective immediately.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26571 - In re: Peter Lawrence Currie. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to impose discipline on consent pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(b) is allowed, and respondent Peter Lawrence Currie is suspended from the practice of law for sixty (60) days and until further order of the Court, with the suspension stayed in its entirety by a two (2)-year period of probation subject to the following conditions:

(a) Respondent shall abstain from the usage of any and all alcohol, illegal drugs, and non-prescribed controlled substances;

(b) Respondent shall attend meetings as scheduled by the Commission probation officer and shall submit quarterly written reports to the Commission probation officer concerning the nature and extent of his compliance with the conditions of probation;

(c) Respondent shall, upon request by the Administrator, submit to random substance testing by a mental health professional or facility approved by the Administrator, within eight (8) hours of receiving notice by the Administrator that he shall submit to the testing. The results of the tests shall be reported to the Administrator. Respondent shall pay any and all costs of such testing;

(d) Respondent shall attend a low-intensity outpatient relapse prevention program such as that designed or promulgated by John Houlighan, M.A., MSW or his designee, or a similar program approved by the Administrator;

(e) Respondent shall report any alcohol use to the Administrator within seventy-two (72) hours of that usage;

(f) Respondent shall notify the Administrator within fourteen (14) days of any change of address, any change in relapse prevention program, or any change in treating psychiatrist;

(g) Respondent shall continue his course of treatment with Dr. Mitchell Halper. The frequency and duration of treatment, as well as the usage and dosage of medication prescribed by Dr. Halper during that treatment, shall be determined by Dr. Halper and respondent with the exception of the medication Klonopin, which shall be tapered and discontinued in its entirety within sixty (60) days of the entry of the order of discipline;

(h) Respondent shall provide Dr. Halper, and any treating professional involved with the low-intensity outpatient relapse prevention program in which respondent participates, with appropriate releases authorizing those treating professionals to (1) disclose to the Administrator on at least a quarterly basis information pertinent to the nature of respondent's compliance with any treatment plan; (2) promptly report to the Administrator respondent's failure to comply with the plan; and (3) respond to any inquiries by the Administrator regarding respondent's mental or emotional state or compliance with the treatment plan;

(i) Respondent shall comply with the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct and shall timely cooperate with the Administrator in providing information regarding any investigations relating to his conduct;

(j) Respondent shall reimburse the Commission for the costs of this proceeding as defined in Supreme Court Rule 773 and shall reimburse the Commission for any further costs incurred during the period of probation;

(k) Probation shall be revoked if respondent is found to have violated any of the terms of probation. The sixty (60)-day period of suspension shall commence from the date of the determination that any term of probation has been violated and shall continue until further order of the Court; and

(l) Probation shall terminate without further order of the Court provided that respondent complies with the above conditions.

Respondent Peter Lawrence Currie shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension/probation.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26586 - In re: Phillip McKinney Pippenger. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to impose discipline on consent pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(b) is allowed, and respondent Phillip McKinney Pippenger is suspended from the practice of law for sixty (60) days and required to successfully complete the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission Professionalism Seminar within six (6) months of the Court's final order of discipline.

Suspension effective April 4, 2014.

Respondent Phillip McKinney Pippenger shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.

M.R.26607 - In re: Steven G. Schochetman. Disciplinary Commission.

The petition by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission to impose discipline on consent pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(b) is allowed, and respondent Steven G. Schochetman is suspended from the practice of law for ninety (90) days.

Suspension effective April 4, 2014.

Respondent Steven G. Schochetman shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct prior to the termination of the period of suspension.

Order entered by the Court.