

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE

REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE

JUNE 2021

Disciplinary Sanctions
03/1/2021 - 05/29/2021

DISBARMENTS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Markle, Robert Aaron	3	3
Markle, Robert Aaron	3	2
McCoy, Dianna Lee	13	5
Pagano, Christina E.	9	1
Thompson, John Rex	2	4
Thompson, John Rex	2	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Bednar, Alexander Louis	BODA	1
Total:	7	17

RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Gorman, Terry P.	9	3
Jackson, Richard E.	6	1
Petty, Weldon Ralph Jr.	16	4
Simmons, Bryan Lee	2	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Alanis, Cynthia Nalleli	BODA	1
Dhooghe, Vincent P.	BODA	1
Total:	6	11

SUSPENSIONS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Abbey, Joe Beverly	6	1
Allen, Scottie	6	1
Allen, Scottie	6	1
Allred, Blake Daniel	4	1
Allred, Blake Daniel	4	2
Arismendez, Ysidro "Sid" Deluna III	11	1
Carter, Kenavon Tramayne	9	1
Cedillo, Paul Jr.	5	1
Demerson, Christopher Dante	8	1
Driver, Michael Stuart	4	1
Dunbar, Keith Best	1	3
Ebrahimi, Shamim	6	1
Eureste, Arthur R.	4	1
Gould, Keith Matthew	11	1
Greening, Ronald G.	9	1
Guardiola, Israel Pando	17	1
Haire, Rodney William	14	1
Hernandez, Jesse	10	1
Holliday, W. David	6	1
Katzen, Jamie Terence	6	1
Klevenhagen, John Joseph III	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mastriani, John Victor	4	1
Mayo, James Keith	2	1

McCoy, Dianna Lee	13	1
Nance, Jami Kay Shrader	10	1
Oggero, George Angelo	4	1
Oggero, George Angelo	4	1
Pagano, Christina E.	9	1
Parker, Pamela Regina	9	1
Register, Jerry B.	3	1
Russell, Michael Kerry	6	1
Turton, Mansel C.	10	1
Zakes, Thomas "Tom" Anthony	4	1

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Cooper, Gaylyn Leon	BODA	1
Rios, Ramon Gerardo	BODA	1
Steinman, David Robert	BODA	1
Total:		48

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	District	# of Complaints Resolved
Flores, Robert Ray	12	1
Jones, Robert Roland III	4	1
Klevenhagen, John Joseph III	4	1
Lawal, Omotayo J.	4	1
Lewis-Perez, Jana Samone	5	1
McCoy, Dianna Lee	13	1
McCoy, Dianna Lee	13	1
Moore, Justin Avery	6	1
Rogers, Gaylene	6	2

Board of Disciplinary Appeals:

Hale, Leila Louise	BODA	1
Total:		11

PRIVATE REPRIMANDS

Grievance Comm.	# of Sanctions	# of Complaints Resolved
4	8	8
6	3	3
7	2	2
8	1	1
9	1	1
10	4	4
12	3	3
14	1	1
17	2	2
Total:		25
Grievance Referral Program		27
Grand Total:		120

Disciplinary Actions - Current Bar Year

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2020-2021		
DISBARMENTS	18	48
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	15	31
SUSPENSIONS	123	156
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	36	42
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	100	102
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	80	80
Total:	372	459

Disciplinary Actions - Previous Bar Year

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2019-2020		
DISBARMENTS	21	28
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	9	35
SUSPENSIONS	140	188
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	39	41
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	106	115
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	86	88
Total:	401	495

BAR YEARS	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
2018-2019		
DISBARMENTS	14	38
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	17	88
SUSPENSIONS	152	209
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	32	39
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	124	138
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	75	82
Total:	414	594

BAR YEARS 2017-2018	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	21	49
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	23	103
SUSPENSIONS	113	159
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	25	29
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	70	74
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	79	80
Total:	331	494

BAR YEARS 2016-2017	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	21	63
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	28	124
SUSPENSIONS	126	182
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	30	37
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	90	98
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	50	50
Total:	345	554

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	56
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	19	56
SUSPENSIONS	113	147
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	32	36
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	66	72
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	63	71
Total:	320	438

BAR YEARS 2013-2014	Total Sanctions	Total Complaints Resolved
DISBARMENTS	22	41
RESIGNATIONS IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE	17	59
SUSPENSIONS	130	169
PUBLIC REPRIMANDS	31	35
PRIVATE REPRIMANDS	63	70
GRIEVANCE REFERRAL PROGRAM	58	58
Total:	321	432

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:

Dunbar, Keith Best: #24010802
04/16/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/31/2023: PROBATED

On April 16, 2021, **Keith Best Dunbar** [#24010802], 56, of Texarkana, received a 24-month fully probated suspension, beginning April 1, 2021, and ending on March 31, 2023. An investigatory panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that Dunbar was paid \$5,000.00 to represent a client in a child custody matter; thereafter, Dunbar failed to safeguard the client's funds, failed to render an accounting of the funds, and failed to promptly refund the advance payment of fees that were not earned. Dunbar also represented another client in a divorce action and the client used a tax return refund to pay the retainer provided that Dunbar would return the remainder of the client's tax refund after he deducted his fees and expenses. Dunbar failed to render an accounting of the client's funds and failed to promptly refund the advance payment of fees that were not earned.

Dunbar violated Rules 1.14(a), 1.14(b), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$2,625.00 in restitution to the first client and \$750.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 2:

Mayo, James Keith: #00794251
02/02/2021-Fully Probated Suspension
01/21/2021-01/20/2022: PROBATED

On February 2, 2021, **James Keith Mayo** [#00794251], 52, of Tyler, received a 12-month probated suspension, effective January 21, 2021. The District 2 Grievance Committee found in October 2018, Complainant hired Mayo in connection with a traffic ticket. Thereafter, Mayo neglected the legal matter entrusted to him when he failed to timely appear at a hearing, resulting in a warrant being issued for Complainant's arrest. Mayo advised Complainant to post a bond to avoid the warrant, however, the bond was actually a fine for the failure to appear at the hearing. Mayo failed to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit Complainant to make informed decisions regarding the representation. At trial, Mayo sent another lawyer, who was not associated with Mayo's firm, without advising Complainant or obtaining Complainant's consent.

Mayo violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(b), and 1.04(g)(1). He was ordered to pay \$300.00 in restitution and \$1,845.00 in attorney's fees and direct expenses.

Simmons, Bryan Lee: #24033190
03/03/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On March 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Bryan Lee Simmons** [#24033190], 50, of Bloomburg. At the time of Simmons' resignation, there was one pending matter against him alleging professional misconduct. On November 12, 2020, Simmons was convicted of violating 21 U.S.C. §846, 21 U.S.C. §841(b)(1)C) - Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine). Simmons was sentenced to 48 months' incarceration and, upon release from imprisonment, Simmons was ordered to not serve as an attorney or engage in the practice of law in any capacity for a period of three years.

Simmons violated Rule 8.04(a)(2).

Thompson, John Rex: #19956150
03/22/2021-Disbarment

On March 22, 2021, **John Rex Thompson** [#19956150], 56, of Tyler, was disbarred, effective March 18, 2021. The District 2 Grievance Committee found that, in September 2018, Thompson was hired for representation in a criminal matter. Thompson was paid \$1,800.00 on September 20, 2018, and \$700.00 on December 21, 2018. Thompson was actively suspended from practicing law on September 1, 2018, and has remained actively suspended since September 1, 2018, for failure to comply with a disciplinary judgment. On April 4, 2020, Thompson submitted a response to the grievance on letterhead that states "Thompson Law Firm Rex Thompson, Attorney" even though Thompson was actively suspended and prohibited from using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney," "counselor at law," or "lawyer." In April 2016, Thompson was hired for representation in two felony criminal matters pending in Smith County for a flat fee of \$7,500.00. In or about September 2016, Thompson stopped communicating with the client. Thompson failed to keep the client reasonably informed and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. On April 4, 2020, Thompson submitted a response to the grievance on letterhead that states "Thompson Law Firm Rex Thompson, Attorney" even though Thompson was actively suspended and prohibited from using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney," "counselor at law," or "lawyer." In July 2014, Thompson was hired to sue a client's landlord. Thompson neglected to file suit until December 5, 2014, after the client sent certified mail to remind Thompson that the statute of limitations was going to expire. Thereafter, the case was dismissed for want of prosecution on March 3, 2015, because Thompson failed to notify the client of the trial date and failed to appear on the trial date. Further, on March 16, 2015, Thompson misrepresented to the client that Thompson would re-instate the lawsuit even though Thompson was on active suspension from January 1, 2015, until June 20, 2015. Despite being notified of the grievance, Thompson failed to submit a response to the grievance. In June 2017, Thompson was hired for representation in a criminal matter and was paid \$2,000.00. While representing the client, Thompson's law license was actively suspended, and Thompson failed to notify the client that he could no longer practice law. On April 18, 2019, Thompson issued a refund check to the client which was returned due to insufficient funds. Despite being notified of the grievance, Thompson failed to submit a response to the grievance. Thompson neglected the legal matters entrusted to him and failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matters. Thompson failed to hold client funds that were in Thompson's possession in connection with the representation separate from

Thompson's own property, and upon termination of representation, Thompson failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Thompson violated a disciplinary judgment and failed to respond to the grievances filed against him.

Thompson violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(7), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$5,954.64 and restitution in the sum of \$2,000.00.

Thompson, John Rex: #19956150
03/10/2021-Disbarment
03/02/2021-Effective

On March 10, 2021, **John Rex Thompson** [#19956150], 56, of Tyler, was disbarred, effective March 2, 2021. The District 2 Grievance Committee found that on or about June 19, 2018, Complainant hired and paid Thompson \$1,738.26 to represent Complainant in connection with a criminal matter. Thompson made an appearance in the case on June 25, 2018, and withdrew on July 6, 2018, without providing any legal services or filing any substantive motions in the case. Upon termination of representation, Thompson failed to refund advance payments of the fee that had not been earned. Thompson failed to respond to the grievance.

Thompson violated Rules 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$3,837.50 and restitution in the sum of \$1,738.26.

DISTRICT 3:

Markle, Robert Aaron: #24098037
01/21/2021-Disbarment

On January 21, 2021, **Robert Aaron Markle** [#24098037], 53, of The Woodlands, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that in the first matter, Markle neglected his client's case, failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information, and failed to explain the case to the extent reasonably necessary to permit his client to make informed decisions. Markle also failed to hold his client's funds in a trust account and failed to refund any unearned fees. Markle further failed to respond to the grievance. In the second matter, Markle took a position that unreasonably increased the costs or other burdens of the case and unreasonably delayed resolution of the case. Markle also failed to respond to the grievance. In the final matter, Markle failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of her case and failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information. Markle further failed to promptly deliver funds to his client that she was entitled to receive and failed to promptly render a full accounting regarding her funds. Markle also failed to respond to the grievance.

Markle violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 3.02, 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$5,000.00 in restitution and \$3,250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Markle, Robert Aaron: #24098037
01/21/2021-Disbarment

On January 21, 2021, **Robert Aaron Markle** [#24098037], 53, of The Woodlands, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that in the first matter, Markle neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his case, and further failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information. Markle also failed to respond to the grievance. In the second matter, Markle neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his case, and further failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information. Furthermore, Markle failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Markle also failed to respond to the grievance.

Markle violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$4,500.00 in restitution and \$2,575.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Register, Jerry B.: #16733500
03/26/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
04/09/2021-10/08/2021: SUSPENSION
10/09/2021-04/08/2024: PROBATED

On March 26, 2021, **Jerry B. Register** [#16733500], 78, of Walker, received a three-year partially probated suspension, effective April 9, 2021, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An investigatory panel of the District 5 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in a property transaction, Register neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Register frequently failed to carry out completely the obligations that he owed to his client. Register failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Register failed to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make an informed decision regarding the representation. Register also engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Register violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.02(a)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$5,000.00 in restitution and \$1,500.00 in attorneys' fees.

DISTRICT 4:

Allred, Blake Daniel: #24069292
03/18/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
03/18/2021-03/17/2023: PROBATED

On March 18, 2021, **Blake Daniel Allred** [#24069292], 38, of Hitchcock (Bayou Vista), accepted a 24-month judgment of a fully probated suspension, effective March 18, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, while representing a client, Allred neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of their matters and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned, engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation 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.

Allred violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,000.00 in restitution and \$2,960.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Allred, Blake Daniel: #24069292
04/14/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/14/2021-04/13/2023: PROBATED

On April 14, 2021, **Blake Daniel Allred** [#24069292], 39, of Hitchcock (Bayou Vista), accepted a 24-month judgment of a fully probated suspension, effective April 14, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, while representing clients, Allred neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, 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.

Allred violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay a total of \$6,300.00 in restitution and \$2,870.51 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Houston Attorney
03/15/2021-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 1.03(b)

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

Driver, Michael Stuart: #24069634
03/05/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
03/15/2021-03/15/2022: PROBATED

On March 5, 2021, **Michael Stuart Driver** [#24069634], 40, of Houston, accepted a one-year fully probated suspension, effective March 15, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Driver failed to abide by his client's decisions concerning the objectives and general methods of representation, failed to promptly deliver to his client's funds that she was entitled to receive and upon request failed to promptly render a full accounting regarding such funds. Driver also failed upon termination of representation to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned.

Driver violated Rules 1.02(a)(1), 1.14(b), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$4,000.00 in restitution and \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Houston Attorney
04/27/2021-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 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.

Eureste, Arthur R.: #06702250
05/21/2021-Agreed Active Suspension
08/01/2021-07/31/2024: SUSPENSION

On May 21, 2021, **Arthur R. Eureste** [#06702250], 67, of Houston, accepted a three-year active suspension, effective August 1, 2021. The 270th Judicial District Court of Harris County found that Eureste neglected his client's legal matter, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of her case, and failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information. Eureste further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Eureste violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees.

Houston Attorney
03/10/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 4.04(b)(1)

A lawyer shall not present, participate in presenting, or threaten to present criminal or disciplinary charges solely to gain an advantage in a civil matter.

Jones, Robert Roland III: #24092597
03/16/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On March 16, 2021, **Robert Roland Jones, III** [#24092597], 54 of Houston, accepted a public reprimand. An investigatory panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Jones failed to hold funds belonging to his client separate from his own property and further failed to refund any advance payment of fees that had not been earned.

Jones violated Rules 1.14(a), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Houston Attorney
03/5/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

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

Klevenhagen, John Joseph III: #90001652
04/05/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/05/2021-04/02/2022: PROBATED

On April 5, 2021, **John Joseph Klevenhagen, III** [#90001652], 49, of Houston, accepted a 12-month fully probated suspension, effective April 5, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, Klevenhagen failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of her matter, failed to promptly deliver to a client funds that the client was entitled to receive 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.

Klevenhagen violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.14(b), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Klevenhagen, John Joseph III: #90001652
04/05/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On April 5, 2021, **John Joseph Klevenhagen, III** [#90001652], 49, of Houston, accepted a public reprimand effective April 5, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, Klevenhagen failed to promptly deliver to a third person funds that the third person was entitled to receive 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.

Klevenhagen violated Rules 1.14(b), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$250.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Houston Attorney
03/02/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 5.08(a)

A lawyer shall not willfully, in connection with an adjudicatory proceeding, except as provided in paragraph (b), manifest, by words or conduct, bias or prejudice based on race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, or sexual orientation towards any person involved in that proceeding in any capacity.

Rule 8.04(a)(2)

A lawyer shall not commit a serious crime or any other criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects.

Lawal, Omotayo J.: #24004144
03/15/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On March 15, 2021, **Omotayo J. Lawal** [#24004144], 65, of Houston, accepted a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Lawal neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Lawal further failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of his case and failed to promptly comply with his client's reasonable requests for information.

Lawal violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.03(b). He was ordered to pay \$2,000.00 in restitution.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/18/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 18, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$1,250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/25/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 25, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further engaged in the practice of law while administratively suspended for failure to timely pay dues and failure to comply with State Bar Rules relating to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$1,200.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
03/02/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
03/01/2021-08/30/2021: SUSPENSION
09/01/2021-03/01/2024: PROBATED

On March 2, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, effective March 1, 2021, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, while representing four clients, Mastriani neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, 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.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(11), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$1,870.58 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
03/02/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
03/01/2021-08/30/2021: SUSPENSION
09/01/2021-03/01/2024: PROBATED

On March 2, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, effective March 1, 2021, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that, while representing four clients, Mastriani neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, failed to refund advance payments of fee that had not been earned, 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 engaged in the practice of law when the lawyer's right to practice had been administratively suspended for failure to pay required fees and failure to comply with Article II of the State Bar Rules relating to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(11), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$5,000.00 in restitution and \$1,466.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/18/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 18, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in restitution and \$716.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/18/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 18, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in restitution and \$716.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/18/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 18, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,500.00 in restitution and \$666.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/19/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 19, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani neglected his client's case, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

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

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/19/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 19, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani failed to carry out completely the obligations owed to his client, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case, and failed to return unearned fees. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$600.00 in restitution and \$616.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Mastriani, John Victor: #13184375
05/18/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
05/17/2021-01/03/2022: SUSPENSION
01/04/2022-05/16/2024: PROBATED

On May 18, 2021, **John Victor Mastriani** [#13184375], 61, of Houston, accepted a 36-month partially probated suspension, with the first seven months, 18 days actively suspended, effective May 17, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Mastriani failed to carry out completely the obligations owed to his client and failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the case. Mastriani further failed to timely respond to the grievance.

Mastriani violated Rules 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$98.00 in restitution and \$750.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**Houston Attorney
04/27/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

A lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer.

Rule 1.03(a)

A lawyer shall not fail to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

Rule 1.14(b)

A lawyer shall not fail, 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.

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 was not earned.

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.

**Houston Attorney
04/27/2021-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 was not earned.

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.

Oggero, George Angelo: #24060360
03/29/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/12/2021-04/11/2023: PROBATED

On March 29, 2021, **George Angelo Oggero** [#24060360], 39, of Houston, received a two-year fully probated suspension, effective April 12, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in a claim against the homeowners insurance company, Oggero neglected the legal matter entrusted to him. Oggero failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Oggero failed to provide a written contingent fee agreement. Upon termination of representation, Oggero failed to take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect the client's interests.

Oggero violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a) 1.04(d), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in attorneys' fees.

Oggero, George Angelo: #24060360
04/23/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
05/12/2021-05/11/2023: PROBATED

On April 23, 2021, **George Angelo Oggero** [#24060360], 39, of Houston, received a two-year fully probated suspension, effective May 12, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in a probate matter, Oggero accepted and continued employment in a legal matter, which Oggero knew or should have known, was beyond his competence. Oggero neglected the legal matter entrusted to him.

Oggero violated Rules 1.01(a), and 1.01(b)(1). He was ordered to pay \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees.

Houston Attorney
02/23/2021-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.

Zakes, Thomas "Tom" Anthony: #22243420
04/09/2021-Fully Probated Suspension
06/08/2021-06/07/2023: PROBATED

On April 9, 2021, **Thomas "Tom" Anthony Zakes** [#22243420], 58, of Houston, received a two-year fully probated suspension, effective June 8, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that in representing Complainant in a child custody matter, Zakes neglected the legal matter entrusted to him and frequently failed to carry out completely the obligations that he owed to the client. Zakes failed to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Zakes failed to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

Zakes violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), and 1.03(b).

DISTRICT 5:

Cedillo, Paul Jr.: #04043500
05/27/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
06/01/2021-05/31/2023: PROBATED

On May 27, 2021, **Paul Cedillo, Jr.** [#04043500], 79, of Houston, received a two-year fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2021. The 400th District Court of Fort Bend County found that Cedillo violated Rule 1.01(b)(1) [neglected a legal matter], Rule 1.01(b)(2) [frequently failed to carry out completely the obligations owed to the client], Rule 1.03(a) [failed to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], and Rule 1.04(c) [failed to communicate the basis or rate of the fee to the client].

Cedillo was ordered to pay \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and \$300.00 in restitution.

Lewis-Perez, Jana Samone: #24077463
04/29/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On April 29, 2021, **Jana Samone Lewis-Perez** [#24077463], 36, of Pearland, accepted a public reprimand. An investigatory panel of the District 5 Grievance Committee found that Lewis-Perez neglected a legal matter entrusted to her and failed to keep her client reasonably informed about the status of his legal matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information about the case. Upon termination of representation, Lewis-Perez failed to refund any advance payments of fee that had not been earned. Lastly, Lewis-Perez knowingly made a false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal.

Lewis-Perez violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 3.03(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$1,500.00 in restitution and \$1,000.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 6:

Abbey, Joe Beverly: #00789000

04/03/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension

04/01/2021-03/31/2022: SUSPENSION

04/01/2022-03/31/2025: PROBATED

On April 3, 2021, **Joe Beverly Abbey** [#00789000], 85, of Dallas, received a 48-month partially probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021, with the first 12 months actively served and the remainder probated. An investigatory panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in January 2017, Abbey was hired to review documents relative to an international loan transaction and was wired \$30,696.97 to be held in escrow pending the closing of the loan. Thereafter, Abbey paid himself and other parties out of the escrow funds. When the loan transaction could not be completed and a dispute arose about the escrow funds, Abbey misrepresented that he was returning the funds when, in fact, Abbey paid the remaining funds to himself. Abbey failed to hold funds that were in Abbey's possession in connection with the representation separate from his own property and failed to keep the disputed funds separated until the dispute was resolved. Abbey knowingly failed to disclose a material fact and the disclosure was necessary to avoid making Abbey a party to a fraudulent act. Abbey engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Abbey violated Rules 1.14(a), 1.14(c), 4.01(b), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$750.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$30,696.97 in restitution.

Dallas Attorney

04/27/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(2)

In representing a client, a lawyer shall not frequently fail to carry out completely the obligations that the lawyer owes to a client or clients.

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.

Allen, Scottie: #01058020
03/05/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
03/01/2021-10/31/2023: PROBATED

On March 5, 2021, **Scottie Allen** [#01058020], 61, of Dallas, agreed to a 32-month fully probated suspension, effective March 1, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that on or about August 10, 2015, Allen was hired to represent the complainant in two criminal cases. In representing the complainant, Allen failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of the case and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant. Allen also failed to timely respond to the grievance filed against him without asserting a privilege or other legal ground for his failure to respond.

Allen violated Rule 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$1,700.00 in restitution and \$3,079.50 in attorneys' fees and costs.

Allen, Scottie: #01058020
03/31/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/31/2024: PROBATED

On March 31, 2021, **Scottie Allen** [#01058020], 61, of Dallas, agreed to a three-year fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Allen represented the complainant in proceedings following a mistrial declared in a criminal matter. Upon termination of representation, Allen failed to surrender papers and property to which the complainant was entitled to.

Allen violated Rule 1.15(d). He agreed to pay \$816.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Dallas Attorney
05/13/2021-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 8.04(a)(8)

A lawyer shall not fail to timely furnish to the Chief Disciplinary Counsels 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.

Ebrahimi, Shamim: #24072907
04/28/2021-Default Fully Probated Suspension
05/15/2021-05/14/2022: PROBATED

On April 28, 2021, **Shamim Ebrahimi** [#24072907], 36, of Dallas, received a 12-month fully probated suspension, effective May 15, 2021. The 116th Judicial District Court of Dallas County found that Ebrahimi committed Professional Misconduct by violating 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 fees that have not been earned.

Ebrahimi was ordered to pay attorneys' fees and direct expenses in the sum of \$2,054.53 and \$3,500.00 in restitution.

Holliday, W. David: #09877300
03/29/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
03/01/2021-05/31/2021: PROBATED

W. David Holliday [#09877300], 71, of Dallas, received a fully probated suspension, effective March 1, 2021, and ending on May 31, 2021. An investigatory hearing panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Holliday failed to hold funds belonging in whole or in part to his clients that was in Holliday's possession in connection with the representation separate from Holliday's own property. Holliday had direct supervisory authority over his assistant and failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure that his assistant's conduct was compatible with the professional obligations of Holliday.

Holliday violated Rules 1.14(a), and 5.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Jackson, Richard E.: #10492980
04/13/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On April 13, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Richard E. Jackson** [#10492980], 59, of Coppell. At the time of Jackson's resignation, there was one pending matter against him alleging professional misconduct. Beginning in 1999, Jackson was the lead assistant district attorney assigned to prosecute Stanley Mozee (Mozee) and Dennis Allen (Allen) for the murder of Reverend Jesse Borns, Jr. Jackson failed to disclose evidence that tended to negate the guilt of Mozee and Allen to defense counsel, including but not limited to, Jackson failed to make timely disclosure to the defense details related to eyewitnesses' identification or description of Mozee and Allen or alleged suspect.

Jackson Alleged Rule Violated: 3.09(d).

Katzen, Jamie Terence: #24065541
04/02/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/31/2024: PROBATED

On April 2, 2021, **Jamie Terence Katzen** [#24065541], 38, of Dallas, agreed to a 36-month fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that while representing a client, Katzen deliberately overbilled his client and misrepresented the reason for the overbilling. Katzen collected an unconscionable fee and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Katzen violated Rules 1.04(a), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$500.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Moore, Justin Avery: #24088906
03/24/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On March 24, 2021, **Justin Avery Moore** [#24088906], 34, of Dallas, agreed to a public reprimand. The District 6 Grievance Committee found that on or about February 16, 2018, the Complainant hired Moore to file a defamation lawsuit. Moore was paid \$5,000.00 in advance legal fees. Upon termination of representation, Moore failed to refund advance payments of the fee that had not been earned.

Moore violated Rule 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$2,500.00 in restitution.

Dallas Attorney
05/21/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.15(a)(3)

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 lawyer is discharged, with or without good cause.

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.

Rogers, Gaylene: #17166500
04/01/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On April 1, 2021, **Gaylene Rogers** [#17166500], 63, of Dallas, agreed to a public reprimand. An investigatory panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that in June of 2019, Rogers was retained by Complainant to draw up a partnership agreement for a residential property. In representing Complainant, Rogers neglected the legal matter entrusted to her by failing to complete any legal work. Rogers failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from Complainant. In August 2017, Rogers, acting as an escrow officer, closed on a loan between Complainant's private lending company and another company. Rogers maintained funds in her trust account that were to be used for title insurance, but Rogers failed to obtain the insurance.

Rogers violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.14(b). She was ordered to pay attorneys' fees in the sum of \$500.00 and restitution in the sum of \$3,000.00.

Russell, Michael Kerry: #17420700
05/20/2021-Partially Probated Suspension
06/01/2021-11/30/2021: SUSPENSION
12/01/2021-05/31/2022: PROBATED

On May 20, 2021, **Michael Kerry Russell** [#17420700], 68, of Dallas, agreed to a 12-month partially probated suspension, effective June 1, 2021, with the first six months actively served and the remainder probated. An investigatory panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that Russell neglected the legal matter entrusted to him, failed to communicate with the complainant, and upon termination of representation, Russell failed to surrender papers and property to which the complainant was entitled.

Russell violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 7:

Dallas Attorney
03/12/2021-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 1.15(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.

Dallas Attorney
05/21/2021-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.

DISTRICT 8:

Demerson, Christopher Dante: #24066913
03/15/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
05/01/2021-04/30/2024: PROBATED

On March 15, 2021, **Christopher Dante Demerson** [#24066913], 37, of College Station, accepted a three-year fully probated suspension, effective May 1, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 8 Grievance Committee found that Demerson neglected a criminal matter entrusted to him and failed to explain the matter to the extent necessary to permit his client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

Demerson violated Rule 1.01(b)(1), and 1.03(b). He was ordered to pay \$1,460.80 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Austin Attorney
03/24/2021-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(a)

A lawyer shall not 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.

DISTRICT 9:

Carter, Kenavon Tramayne: #24044913
03/04/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/30/2022: PROBATED

On March 4, 2021, **Kenavon Tramayne Carter** [#24044913], 47, of Austin, accepted a one-year fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that Carter failed to timely return an unearned fee in a criminal matter.

Carter violated Rule 1.14(b). Carter was ordered to pay \$250.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Gorman, Terry P.: #08218200
03/03/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On March 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Terry P. Gorman** [#08218200], 65, of Dallas. At the time of Gorman's resignation, the following disciplinary cases were pending against him. In the first case, Complainant hired Gorman on June 3, 2019, to sue a former employer after receiving a right to sue letter dated May 16, 2019, from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). The deadline to file suit was August 14, 2019, 90 days from the date of the letter. Gorman failed to timely file suit. In addition, Complainant attempted to contact Gorman numerous times, but Gorman failed to respond until after the statute of limitation had run on Complainant's claims. Further, Gorman did not inform Complainant that he failed to timely file suit or discuss any concerns he had about Complainant's claims until September 18, 2020. In the second case, Complainant initially hired the Law Office of Donald Henslee ("Henslee") on August 4, 2017, to send a demand letter to Complainant son's former school concerning special education services. Gorman was "of counsel" to the Henslee firm and assigned to handle Complainant's case. Gorman recommended, and Complainant agreed, that Complainant should file suit without sending a demand letter. After Complainant's suit was filed, the opposing party answered and presented a counterclaim for defamation. Gorman represented to Complainant that he would file an anti-SLAPP motion to dispose of the defamation claim but failed to do so. Subsequently, the opposing party served Gorman with written discovery requests. Gorman timely answered the Requests for Admissions but failed to adequately respond to Interrogatories or Requests for Production of Documents. The opposing party filed two

Motions to Compel Discovery and for Sanctions. After a hearing, the court sanctioned Complainant and ordered him to pay a total of \$1,000.00. Gorman failed to notify Complainant of the filed pleadings, the hearings, or the sanctions. Eventually, Gorman paid the \$1,000.00. In July of 2018, Henslee resigned in lieu of discipline. Neither Henslee nor Gorman notified Complainant that Henslee could no longer practice law. In the third case, Complainant initially hired the Law Office of Donald Henslee ("Henslee") in November of 2017, to file a complaint with the Texas Education Agency ("TEA"). Gorman was "of counsel" to the Henslee firm and assigned to handle Complainant's case. In a telephone conversation on December 14, 2017, Gorman told Complainant that he would file complaints with TEA, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"), Texas Workforce Commission, and the Office of Civil Rights. Complainant agreed with Gorman's recommendations, but Gorman did not file any of the complaints. Complainant, without the assistance of counsel, filed a complaint with the EEOC and obtained a Right to Sue Letter on December 21, 2018.

After Complainant provided Gorman with the Right to Sue Letter, Gorman timely filed suit in federal court. However, without consulting Complainant, Gorman filed a voluntary dismissal of the federal suit on June 14, 2019, and the case was dismissed without prejudice. The same day Gorman refiled an almost identical federal lawsuit in the same court in hopes of getting it assigned to another judge. Complainant terminated Gorman's representation and proceeded pro se. After a hearing, the court dismissed the second lawsuit because: 1) at the time the second lawsuit was filed some of the claims were time-barred; and 2) those claims filed before the expiration of the statute of limitations were not supported by the facts pled. Subsequently, Gorman represented to Complainant that he would appeal the dismissal. However, Gorman failed to timely file the notice of appeal and did not timely order court transcripts. Ultimately, the appeal was dismissed for failing to timely file the notice of appeal.

Gorman violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 3.02, and 3.04(d).

Greening, Ronald G.: #08402600
05/05/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
05/15/2021-08/14/2022: PROBATED

On May 5, 2021, **Ronald G. Greening** [#08402600], 75, of Austin, accepted a 15-month fully probated suspension, effective May 15, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that in January 2019, Greening consulted with a client regarding the probating of her mother's estate and the client's stepfather paid Greening a \$5,000.00 advanced fee, on or about February 6, 2019, which Greening failed to place in a trust or escrow account. Subsequently, Greening sent the client a proposed fee agreement, which she did not sign because she wanted to discuss the agreement with Greening. After receiving the proposed fee agreement, the client made numerous calls to Greening, after February 11, 2019, which he did not return. On April 2, 2019, having received no information from Greening, the client terminated the representation and requested a refund. Rather than comply with the client's request, Greening sent her a letter containing his analysis of potential issues that may arise in the probating of her mother's estate. On April 16, 2019, the client hired new counsel who unsuccessfully attempted to obtain an accounting and the refund of any unearned fees from Greening. Greening failed to respond promptly to new counsel's request. On the morning of June 18, 2019, the client spoke to an employee at Greening's law firm and again requested a refund. That evening, the client received an email from Greening with an attached statement purporting to show that the firm had earned the advanced fee.

Greening violated Rules 1.14(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(3). Greening was ordered to pay \$3,500.00 in restitution to the client and \$1,463.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Pagano, Christina E.: #07154500
04/28/2021-Disbarment

On April 28, 2021, **Christina E. Pagano** [#07154500], 68, of Austin, received a judgment of disbarment effective April 22, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that a client hired Pagano in June of 2018, to secure his release from custody. After Complainant gave Pagano the pin numbers to his debit card and food stamp card, Pagano withdrew \$1,450.00 from the client's debit card and used \$170.00 from the client's food stamp card as an advanced fee for her services. Pagano failed to place the funds in an escrow or trust account. With the client's permission, Pagano also took possession of the client's watch and wallet containing the client's debit card, food stamp card, identification card, and social security card. Pagano failed to appropriately safeguard the client's property and return them at the end of her representation. Pagano made no appearance in the case and failed to provide the legal service for which she was hired. During the disciplinary case, Pagano provided a copy of a handwritten contract and a Motion to Substitute Counsel, both purportedly signed by the client. The panel found that Pagano's client did not sign either document and that Pagano fabricated both documents. Pagano further failed to timely provide a written response to the disciplinary case.

Pagano violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.14(a), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, Article X, Section 9, State Bar Rules. Pagano was ordered to pay \$4,850.00 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Pagano, Christina E.: #07154500
04/15/2021-Partially Probated Suspension
04/13/2021-10/12/2022: SUSPENSION
10/13/2022-04/12/2024: PROBATED

On April 15, 2021, **Christina E. Pagano** [#07154500], 68, of Austin, received a three-year partially probated suspension (18 months active and 18 months probated) related to two corresponding disciplinary cases, effective April 13, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that, on or about September 1, 2019, a friend of the client paid Pagano an advanced fee of \$2,000.00 to represent the client in a criminal matter. Pagano failed to place the advanced fee into a trust or escrow account and failed to make an appearance in the case. In addition, Pagano had the client, who does not read English, sign a contract that was in English. Pagano failed to explain the terms of the contract to the client. After the client hired new counsel, Pagano failed to provide to return any unearned fee, a copy of the contract, or any documents in the client's file.

Pagano violated Rules 1.03(b), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), and 1.15(d) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, Article X, Section 9, State Bar Rules. Pagano was ordered to pay \$2,000.00 in restitution and \$3,902.80 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

Parker, Pamela Regina: #11601950
03/11/2021-Partially Probated Suspension
05/01/2021-04/30/2022: SUSPENSION
05/01/2022-04/30/2024: PROBATED

On March 11, 2021, **Pamela Regina Parker** [#11601950], 59, of Easthampton, Massachusetts, accepted a three-year partially probated suspension [one year active and two years probated] effective May 1, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that while representing a client in an employment matter, Parker failed to file her client's discrimination claim with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Parker also failed to respond to her client's requests for information and explain the matter to the extent necessary for her client to make informed decisions. In addition, Parker falsely represented to the client that she had filed an EEOC claim on the client's behalf. After, the client discovered that Parker did not file her claim with the EEOC, Parker failed to timely refund the unearned portion of her fee and return the client's documents in her possession.

Parker violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 8.01(a), and 8.04(a)(3). She was ordered to pay \$3,631.60 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Austin Attorney
05/12/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 1.01(b)(1)

A lawyer shall keep neglected 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.

DISTRICT 10:

Hernandez, Jesse: #24050752
03/02/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
03/01/2021-02/28/2023: PROBATED

On March 2, 2021, **Jesse Hernandez** [#24050752], 42, of San Antonio, agreed to a two-year fully probated suspension, effective March 1, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 10 Grievance Committee found that Hernandez neglected a client's matter, failed to keep a client reasonably informed, failed to hold funds separate from his own property and failed to promptly notify and deliver funds to the client and to the health care providers.

Hernandez violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.14(a)&(b)

Nance, Jami Kay Shrader: #24069057
02/25/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/31/2023: PROBATED

On February 25, 2021, **Jami Kay Shrader Nance** [#24069057], 43, of Round Rock, accepted a two-year fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 10 Grievance Committee found that Nance failed to keep client reasonably informed, failed to hold client's funds separate from her own property and failed to respond to lawful demands for information from a disciplinary authority.

Nance violated Rules 1.03(a)&(b), 1.14(a), and 8.01(b).

San Antonio Attorney
03/09/2021-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 1.03(b)

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

Rule 1.14(b)

A lawyer shall, 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.

**San Antonio Attorney
05/10/2021-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 representation.

Rule 1.14(b)

A lawyer shall, 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.

Rule 1.15(d)

A lawyer shall, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, surrender papers and property which belong to the client, or refund any advance payments of fees that have not been earned.

Rule 3.04(d)

A lawyer shall not knowingly disobey an obligation under the standing rules or of a ruling by a tribunal.

**Turton, Mansel C.: #20345600
02/24/2021-Partially Probated Suspension
03/25/2021-09/25/2021: SUSPENSION
09/25/2021-03/24/2025: PROBATED**

On February 24, 2021, **Mansel C. Turton** [#20345600], 83, of San Antonio, received a four-year partially probated suspension, effective March 25, 2021, with the first six months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 10 Grievance Committee found that Turton failed to hold client's funds in a trust account separate from his own property and failed to promptly render a full account regarding client's funds.

Turton violated Rules 1.14(a)&(b), and agreed to pay \$750.00 in restitution, and \$1,655.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**San Antonio Attorney
05/03/2021-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.

**San Antonio Attorney
04/05/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(2)

A lawyer shall carry out completely the obligations owed to a client.

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 8.04(a)(8)

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

DISTRICT 11:

**Arismendez, Ysidro Deluna III: #24008750
03/31/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
04/01/2021-03/30/2022: PROBATED**

On March 31, 2021, **Ysidro Deluna Arismendez III** [#24008750], 52, of Beeville, agreed to a one-year fully probated suspension, effective April 1, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 11 Grievance Committee found that Arismendez neglected a client's matter, failed to keep a client reasonably informed and failed to return unearned fees.

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

**Gould, Keith Matthew: #00795885
05/05/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
06/01/2021-11/30/2021: PROBATED**

On May 5, 2021, **Keith Matthew Gould** [#00795885], 59, of Corpus Christi, accepted a six-month fully probated suspension, effective June 1, 2021. The 28th District Court of Nueces, found that Gould violated Rule 1.15(d) failure to return unearned fees.

Gould violated Rule 1.15(d) and was ordered to pay \$2,336.63 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$2,500.00 in restitution.

DISTRICT 12:

**San Antonio Attorney
04/15/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand**

Rule 1.01(b)(2)

A lawyer shall carry out completely the obligations owed to a client.

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.

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.

**Flores, Robert Ray: #24071887
04/02/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand**

On April 2, 2021, **Robert Ray Flores** [#24071887], 50, of Raymondville, accepted a public reprimand. An investigatory panel of the District 12 Grievance Committee found that Flores failed to timely file a response to a grievance.

Flores violated Rule 8.04(a)(8) and was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

**San Antonio Attorney
04/30/2021-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.

**San Antonio Attorney
05/19/2021-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.

DISTRICT 13:

McCoy, Dianna Lee: #24026865
04/15/2021-Default Public Reprimand

On April 15, 2021, **Dianna Lee McCoy** [#24026865], 57, of Austin, received a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee found that on or about January 12, 2016, McCoy was court-appointed to represent the complainant in a criminal matter. In representing the complainant, McCoy 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. McCoy also failed to timely respond to the grievance.

McCoy violated Rules 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$2,802.21 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

McCoy, Dianna Lee: #24026865
04/15/2021-Default Public Reprimand

On April 15, 2021, **Dianna Lee McCoy** [#24026865], 57, of Austin, received a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee found that on or about January 14, 2019, the complainant filed a complaint against McCoy. Thereafter, McCoy failed to timely respond to the grievance.

McCoy violated Rule 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$2,431.21 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

McCoy, Dianna Lee: #24026865
04/15/2021-Default Active Suspension
05/01/2021-04/30/2022: SUSPENSION

On April 15, 2021, **Dianna Lee McCoy** [#24026865], 57, of Austin, received a 12-month active suspension, effective May 1, 2021. An evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee found that on or about January 11, 2019, McCoy was court-appointed to represent the complainant in a criminal matter. In representing the complainant, McCoy neglected the legal matter entrusted to her, failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of his criminal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant. McCoy also failed to timely respond to the grievance.

McCoy violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$1,696.21 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

McCoy, Dianna Lee: #24026865
04/15/2021-Default Disbarment

On April 15, 2021, **Dianna Lee McCoy** [#24026865], 57, of Austin, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee found that on or about October 9, 2019, McCoy was court-appointed to represent the complainant in two criminal matters. In representing the complainant, McCoy neglected the legal matter entrusted to her, failed to meet with the complainant after her appointment, failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of his criminal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant. McCoy also failed to timely respond to the grievance.

McCoy violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$1,796.21 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

DISTRICT 14:

Haire, Rodney William: #00795402
05/26/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
07/15/2021-10/14/2021: SUSPENSION
10/15/2021-07/15/2022: PROBATED

On May 26, 2021, **Rodney William Haire** [#00795402], 52, of Denton, agreed to a 12-month partially probated suspension, effective July 15, 2021, with the first three months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that, in May 2014, Complainant hired Haire for representation in a personal injury. In November 2014, Haire settled Complainant's case without consulting Complainant and, over the course of the representation, repeatedly misrepresented to Complainant that the case was not yet settled. Haire frequently failed to carry out obligations owed to Complainant, failed to abide by Complainant's decisions whether to accept an offer of settlement and failed to explain the settlement offer to the extent reasonably necessary to permit Complainant to make informed decisions regarding the representation. After settling the matter, Haire failed to provide Complainant with a written statement describing the outcome and showing the remittance and the method of its determination. Upon receiving funds in which Complainant and the medical providers had an interest, Haire failed to safeguard those funds, failed to promptly notify Complainant, and failed to promptly deliver to Complainant or the medical providers any funds they were entitled to receive, failed to promptly render a full accounting, and failed to surrender Complainant's file to her. Haire engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Haire violated Rules 1.01(b)(2), 1.02(a)(2), 1.03(b), 1.04(d), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$2,500.93 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Dallas Attorney
05/25/2021-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.

DISTRICT 16:

Petty, Weldon Ralph Jr.: #15866500
04/13/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On April 13, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Weldon Ralph Petty, Jr.** [#15866500], 78, of Midland. At the time of his resignation, Petty had three grievances pending alleging Petty represented opposing parties in the same related matter.

Petty violated Rule 1.06(b)(2).

DISTRICT 17:

San Antonio Attorney
04/30/2021-Agreed Private Reprimand

Rule 8.02(b)

A lawyer who is a candidate for judicial office shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct.

Guardiola, Israel Pando: #00784184
05/17/2021-Agreed Fully Probated Suspension
05/23/2021-05/23/2022: PROBATED

On May 17, 2021, **Israel Pando Guardiola** [#00784184], 58, of Odessa, agreed to a one-year fully probated suspension, effective May 23, 2021. An investigatory panel of the District 17 Grievance Committee found that Guardiola failed to properly supervise his non-lawyer employee.

Guardiola violated Rules 1.03(b), 5.03(b)(1), and 5.05(a), was ordered to pay \$800.00 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Board of Disciplinary Appeals

Alanis, Cynthia Nalleli: #24096824
03/03/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On March 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Cynthia Nalleli Alanis** [#24096824], 28, of Weslaco. At the time of her resignation, Alanis had committed the crime of making false statements to Federal law enforcement officials as alleged in USA. vs. Alanis, 1:20-CR-00118, in the U.S. District Court in the Southern District of Texas.

Alanis violated Rules 8.04(a)(2)&(3).

Bednar, Alexander Louis: #24044456
02/05/2021-Disbarment

On March 12, 2019, the Supreme Court of Oklahoma issued its Opinion per curiam and order disbarring **Alexander Louis Bednar** [#24044456], 49, in *State of Oklahoma ex re. Oklahoma Bar Association v. Alexander L. Bednar* SCBD 6618. The Supreme Court of Oklahoma denied Bednar's Motion for Rehearing by order signed April 29, 2019, and struck Bednar's request for reconsideration by order signed May 31, 2019.

Cooper, Gaylyn Leon: #04774700
01/29/2021-Agreed Active Suspension
01/29/2021-01/28/2025: SUSPENSION

On January 29, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an Agreed Judgment of Revocation and Active Suspension from the Practice of Law against Port Arthur, TX attorney **Gaylyn Leon Cooper**, 67, State Bar of Texas Card No. 04774700. On February 5, 2020, in a case styled, *Commission for Lawyer Discipline, Petitioner, v. Gaylyn Leon Cooper*, Respondent, Case Nos. 201806966, 201802780, an Evidentiary Panel of the State Bar of Texas District 3 Grievance Committee found that Cooper had committed violations of Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(a), and 1.15(d). The panel imposed a four-year fully probated suspension beginning April 1, 2020, and ending March 31, 2024. On January 29, 2021, the Board found that Cooper failed to comply with the terms of his probated suspension and revoked the probation of suspension. Cooper is suspended from the practice of law for four years, from January 29, 2021, through January 28, 2025.

Dhooghe, Vincent P.: #05798950
03/03/2021-Resignation in lieu of Discipline

On March 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Vincent P. Dhooghe** [#05798950], 64, of Lewisville. At the time, the following allegations of professional misconduct were pending.

On January 23, 2020, a Judgment of Conviction by Court - Waiver of Jury Trial was entered in Cause No. CR19-00011, styled *The State of Texas v. Vincent Pierre Dhooghe*, in the 235th District Court of Cooke County, Texas, wherein Dhooghe pled guilty to Sexual Assault of a Child, Texas Penal Code 22.011(a)(2), a second degree felony, and was committed to four (4) years in the TDCJ, Correctional Institutions Division and ordered to pay court costs in the amount of \$305.00. A Jail Time Credit of one (1) day is given if Dhooghe is to serve sentence in county jail. On February 14, 2020, a Nunc Pro Tunc Judgment of Conviction by Court - Waiver of Jury Trial was entered in Cause No. CR19-00011, styled *The State of Texas v. Vincent Pierre Dhooghe*, in the 235th District Court of Cooke County, Texas, wherein Dhooghe pled guilty to Sexual Assault of a Child, Texas Penal Code 22.011(a)(2), a second-degree felony, and was committed to four (4) years in the TDCJ, Correctional Institutions Division and ordered to pay court costs in the amount of \$305.00. Dhooghe is required to register as a sex offender in accordance with Chapter 62, Tex. Code. Crim. Proc. A Jail Time Credit of one (1) day is given if Dhooghe is to serve sentence in county jail. This conviction would have subjected Dhooghe to compulsory discipline.

Hale, Leila Louise: #24088781
04/27/2021-Agreed Public Reprimand

On April 27, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an Agreed Judgment of Public Reprimand against Henderson, NV attorney **Leila Louise Hale**, 50, State Bar of Texas Card No. 24088781. On January 28, 2020, a Public Reprimand was filed with the State Bar of Nevada, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board, in a matter styled: State Bar of Nevada, Complainant, vs. Leila L., Esq., NV Bar No. 7368, Hale, in Case Nos. OBC 17-0374 and OBC 17-0553. Hale was reprimanded for violations of Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct 1.5 (unreasonable fee) and 5.3 (Responsibilities Regarding Non-Lawyer Assistants).

Rios, Ramon Gerardo: #24062966
05/06/2021-Active Suspension
05/06/2021-09/22/2027: SUSPENSION

Ramon Gerardo Rios, State Bar of Texas #24062966, pled guilty to Misapplication of Fiduciary Property and on or about September 22, 2017, an Order of the Court Deferring Further Proceedings was filed wherein Rios was placed on community supervision for a period of 10 years, ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$177,800.00, complete 100 hours of community service, receive counseling/treatment designation by the Supervision Officer, have no contact with Ron Park and Raul Capitaine, ordered not to obtain employment in real estate and have no contact with Capro Investments, LLC. The judgment is final. The State of Texas v. Ramon Gerardo Rios, Cause # D-1-DC-14-900131, 147th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas.

Steinman, David Robert: #00791727
03/10/2021-Agreed Partially Probated Suspension
03/10/2021-06/09/2021: SUSPENSION
06/10/2021-06/09/2022: PROBATED

On March 10, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an Agreed Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension against Fort Worth attorney **David Robert Steinman**, 53, State Bar of Texas Card # 00791727. On January 11, 2019, an Opinion and Decision Imposing Sanctions Under C.R.C.P. 251.19(b), was entered by the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, in a matter styled: *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: David R. Steinman, #39853*, Case No. 18PDJ038, suspending Steinman from the practice of law for six months, with three months to be served and three months to be stayed upon completion of a one-year period of probation.