# 60 Orders of Discipline and Disability

## Disbarment

**David Chipman Venie**, P68087, Rio Rancho, New Mexico, by the Attorney Discipline Board, effective August 18, 2017.<sup>1</sup>

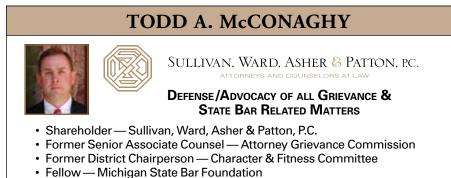
In a reciprocal discipline proceeding under MCR 9.120(C), the grievance administrator filed a certified copy of an order permanently disbarring the respondent from the practice of law, effective immediately, entered by the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico on January 18, 2017, *In the Matter of D. Chipman Venie*, Case No. S-1-SC-3675.

An order regarding imposition of reciprocal discipline was served on the respondent on May 11, 2017. The 21-day period referenced in MCR 9.120(C)(2)(b) expired without objection by either party and the respondent was deemed to be in default. Based on that default, the Attorney Discipline Board ordered that the respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,517.31.

 The respondent requested to be placed on Voluntary Inactive Status, effective October 1, 2016, with the State Bar of Michigan.

# Disbarments and Restitution

**Michael R. Josey**, P36364, Detroit, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #9, effective February 1, 2020.<sup>1</sup>



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# DUTY TO REPORT AN ATTORNEY'S CRIMINAL CONVICTION

All Michigan attorneys are reminded of the reporting requirements of **MCR 9.120(A)** when a lawyer is convicted of a crime:

#### What to Report:

A lawyer's conviction of any crime, including misdemeanors. A conviction occurs upon the return of a verdict of guilty or upon the acceptance of a plea of guilty or no contest.

#### Who Must Report:

Notice must be given by <u>all</u> of the following:

- 1. The lawyer who was convicted;
- 2. The defense attorney who represented the lawyer; and
- 3. The prosecutor or other authority who prosecuted the lawyer.

#### When to Report:

Notice must be given by the lawyer, defense attorney, and prosecutor within **14 days** after the conviction.

#### Where to Report:

Written notice of a lawyer's conviction must be given to:

Grievance Administrator Attorney Grievance Commission Buhl Building, Ste. 1700 535 Griswold, Detroit, MI 48226 <u>and</u> Attorney Discipline Board 211 W. Fort Street, Ste. 1410 Detroit, MI 48226 Based on the respondent's default for failure to file an answer to the formal complaint, the hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct by providing legal services to three separate clients in violation of the Order of Disbarment in *Grievance Administrator v Michael R. Josey*, ADB Case No. 14-96-GA, effective January 31, 2015.

The panel found that the respondent engaged in the practice of law in Michigan, in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in Michigan, contrary to MRPC 5.5(a); maintained an office or other systematic and continuous presence in the state of Michigan for the practice of law, in violation of MRPC 5.5(b)(1); held himself out to the public or otherwise represented that he was a lawyer admitted to practice law in Michigan, in violation of MRPC 5.5(b) (2); engaged in conduct that violated an order of discipline, contrary to MCR 9.104(9); failed to answer a request for investigation in conformity with MCR 9.113, in violation of MCR 9.104(7); failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a) (2); and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or violation of the criminal law, where such conduct reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer, contrary to MRPC 8.4(b). The respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a) and (c).

The panel ordered that the respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan and that he pay restitution to the two complainants in the total amount of \$900. The disbarment shall run consecutively to the disbarment ordered in *Grievance Administrator v Michael R. Josey*, ADB Case No. 14-96-GA. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,847.72.

 The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since December 1, 2012. Please see Notice of Suspension With Condition (By Consent), issued November 21, 2012, *Grievance Administrator v Michael R. Josey*, ADB Case No. 11-122-JC.

**Barry A. Steinway**, P24137, West Bloomfield, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #24, effective August 25, 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Orders of Discipline and Disability 61

Based on the respondent's default for failure to file an answer to the formal complaint, the hearing panel found that he committed professional misconduct in his representation of a client regarding the acceleration of a loan and possible foreclosure of a mortgage on a warehouse; in his representation of another client in the sale of a restaurant and real estate owned by two corporations in which his client was an officer; and by failing to answer requests for investigation.

The panel found that the respondent failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary for a client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); engaged in a conflict of interest by representing a client when his representation may have been materially limited by the respondent's personal interests, in violation of MRPC 1.7(b)(1) and (2); failed to promptly pay or deliver any funds that the clients or third parties were entitled to receive, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); used an IOLTA account as a personal and/or business checking account, by issuing checks and making electronic transfers directly from the IOLTA account in payment of personal and/or business expenses, in violation of MRPC 1.15(c) and (d); failed to hold property of clients or third persons in connection with a representation separate from the respondent's own property, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); knowingly made a false statement of material fact in an affidavit, in violation of MRPC 4.1; failed to timely answer requests for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7), MCR 9.113(A), and MCR 9.113(B)(2); and knowingly failed to respond to lawful demands for information, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2). The respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a)-(c).

The panel ordered that the respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan and that he pay restitution to the two complainants in the total amount of \$313,794.06. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,013.09.

1. The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since March 27, 2017. Please see Notice of Interim Suspension Pursuant to MCR 9.115(H)(1), issued March 27, 2017.

### Reinstatement to Active Status (With Conditions)

David Grant Mapley, P47918, Pontiac, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #64, effective August 21, 2017.

On July 24, 2014, Tri-County Hearing Panel #53 issued an order transferring the respondent's license to inactive status pursuant to MCR 9.121(B) for a minimum of one year and until further order in accordance with MCR 9.121(E).

On March 20, 2017, the petitioner submitted a petition for reinstatement, and a public hearing was held on June 20, 2017. On August 21, 2017, Tri-County Hearing Panel #64 issued its order reinstating the respondent to active status with conditions. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$458.50.

# Reprimand

Charles A. Carpenter, P61118, Maryville, Tennessee, by the Attorney Discipline Board, effective August 19, 2017.

In a reciprocal discipline proceeding under MCR 9.120(C), the grievance administrator filed a certified copy of a public censure,

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effective immediately, entered by District II of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee on April 11, 2017, IN RE: Charles Alphonso Carpenter, File Nos. 44922-2-PS; 45910-2-PS.

An order regarding imposition of reciprocal discipline was served on the respondent on May 26, 2017. The 21-day period referenced in MCR 9.120(C)(2)(b) expired without objection by either party and the respondent was deemed to be in default. Based on that default, the Attorney Discipline Board ordered that the respondent be reprimanded. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,520.83.

# Reprimands (By Consent)

Paul E. Hamre, P32636, Lawton, by the Attorney Discipline Board, affirming Kent County Hearing Panel #4's Order of Reprimand (By Consent), issued February 21, 2017, effective March 15, 2017.

The respondent and the grievance administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contains the respondent's admissions to the allegations that he committed professional misconduct by engaging in discourteous and disrespectful conduct toward plaintiffs' counsel in a civil matter.

Based on the respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, it was established that the respondent failed to treat with courtesy and respect all persons involved in the legal process, in violation of MRPC 6.5(a); engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MCR 9.104(1) and MRPC 8.4(c); and engaged in conduct that exposed the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that the respondent be reprimanded. The complainants, Donald R. Visser and Robert Baker, filed a petition for review. Upon review, the Board affirmed the hearing panel's Order of Reprimand (By Consent) on July 13, 2017. Total costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,019.40.

Kelly L. Page, P24787, Paw Paw, by the Attorney Discipline Board, affirming Kent County Hearing Panel #4's Order of Reprimand (By Consent), issued February 21, 2017, effective March 15, 2017.

The respondent and the grievance administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contains the respondent's admissions to the allegations that he committed professional misconduct by engaging in discourteous and disrespectful conduct toward plaintiffs' counsel in a civil matter.

Based on the respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, it was established that the respondent failed to treat with courtesy and respect all persons involved in the legal process, in violation of MRPC 6.5(a); engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MCR 9.104(1) and MRPC 8.4(c); and engaged in conduct that exposed the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that the respondent be reprimanded. The complainants, Donald R. Visser and Robert Baker, filed a petition for review. Upon review, the Board affirmed the hearing panel's Order of Reprimand (By Consent) on July 13, 2017. Total costs were assessed in the amount of \$1.019.40.

Gary A. Stewart, P49442, Paw Paw, by the Attorney Discipline Board, affirming Kent County Hearing Panel #4's Order of Reprimand (By Consent) issued February 21, 2017, effective March 15, 2017.

The respondent and the grievance administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contains the respondent's admissions to the allegations that he committed professional misconduct by engaging in discourteous and disrespectful conduct toward plaintiffs' counsel in a civil matter.

Based on the respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, it was established that the respondent failed to treat with courtesy and respect all persons involved in the legal process, in violation of MRPC 6.5(a); engaged in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MCR 9.104(1) and MRPC 8.4(c); and engaged in conduct that exposed the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that the respondent be reprimanded. The complainants, Donald R. Visser and Robert Baker, filed a petition for review. Upon review, the Board affirmed the hearing panel's Order of Reprimand (By Consent) on July 13, 2017. Total costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,011.41.

### Suspensions

Sameer Dua, P61249, Lansing, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Ingham County Hearing Panel #5, for 180 days, effective August 5, 2017.1

The respondent pled guilty to Structuring Transactions to Evade Reporting Requirements, in violation of 31 USC 5324(a) (3); 5324(d)(2); and Aiding and Abetting, in violation of 18 USC 2, felonies, in United States of America v Sameer Dua, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan Southern Division Case No. 16-CR-20540-1. In accordance with MCR 9.120(B) (1), the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan was automatically suspended effective August 29, 2016, the date of the respondent's felony convictions. Based on the respondent's convictions, the panel found that he committed professional misconduct

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that violated criminal laws of this state, contrary to MCR 9.104(5).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 180 days, along with the conditions that he attend the seminars offered by the State Bar of Michigan entitled "Tips and Tools for a Successful Practice" and "Lawyer Trust Accounts: Management Principles and Recordkeeping Resources" and show successful completion of the probationary period ordered by the United States district judge in the underlying criminal matter. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,413.76.

 The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since August 29, 2016. Please see Notice of Automatic Interim Suspension, issued September 30, 2016.

**Susan F. Reed**, P26897, Detroit, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #23, for 180 days, effective August 15, 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Based on the respondent's default, the hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct in her representation of a client in a criminal matter by failing to adequately communicate with the client; failing to explain the matter to her client; and by failing to answer an Attorney Grievance Commission request for investigation. The panel found that the respondent failed to keep her client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and failed to comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2); and failed to answer a request for investigation in conformity with MCR 9.113(A), in violation of MCR 9.104(7). The respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(a) and (c); and MCR 9.104(1)-(4).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for 180 days. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,686.70.

 The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since October 20, 2016. Please see Order of Interim Suspension, issued October 20, 2016, Grievance Administrator v Susan F. Reed, Case No. 16-76-GA.

# Suspensions and Restitution

**Marcellus Long Jr.**, P43630, Pontiac, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #70, for one year, effective August 5, 2017.

Based on the respondent's default for failure to answer the complaint and the exhibits offered into evidence by the grievance administrator, the hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct in his representation of three separate clients: in a personal injury matter arising out of a motor vehicle accident, a third-party auto negligence matter, and a probate estate; failing to answer a request for investigation; and failing to appear, when subpoenaed, to answer questions under oath on two different occasions.

The panel found that the respondent neglected legal matters, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of his clients through reasonably available means, in violation of MRPC 1.2; failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness on his clients' behalf, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep his clients reasonably informed regarding the status of their legal matters and respond promptly to reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to refund an unearned fee paid in advance, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); and failed to answer a request for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7) and MCR 9.113(A) and (B). The respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(a); and MCR 9.104(2)-(4).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for one year and that the respondent pay restitution of \$650 to Complainant Bonita Green. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,874.28.

**Jacquise A. Purifoy**, P74517, Detroit, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #27, for 180 days, effective August 12, 2017.

Based on the respondent's default, the hearing panel found that the respondent

committed professional misconduct after being retained by a client to initiate a divorce proceeding, and for her failure to timely answer a request for investigation.

The panel found that the respondent failed to hold property of clients or third persons in connection with a representation separate from her own property, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); failed to deposit legal fees and expenses paid in advance into a client trust account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(g); failed to refund the advance payment of an unearned fee or unused expense upon termination of the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); and failed to timely answer a request for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7) and MCR 9.113(A) and (B)(2). The respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(a) and (b); and MCR 9.104(2) and (3).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for 180 days and that the respondent pay \$1,500 in restitution. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,821.40.

# Suspensions and Restitution (With Conditions)

**Ronald Thomas Bruce Jr.**, P62579, Monroe, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #3, for 18 months, effective June 30, 2017.<sup>1</sup>

As alleged in the 10-count formal complaint and established by the respondent's answer to the formal complaint, the evidence submitted, testimony submitted, and the admissions by the respondent, the hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct by neglecting three client matters, violating an order from the United States Bankruptcy Court, failing to refund unearned fees, and failing to answer various requests for investigation and requests for additional information from the Attorney Grievance Commission.

The panel found that the respondent failed to refund an advance payment of fee that had not been earned, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d) (Counts One, Three, and Five); knowingly disobeyed an obligation under the rules of a tribunal, in violation of MRPC 3.4(c) (Count Two); failed to respond to a lawful demand for information

from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2) (Counts One-Ten); failed to answer a request for investigation in conformity with MCR 9.113, in violation of MCR 9.104(7) (Counts One-Two, Four-Ten); and failed or refused to appear or give evidence and to be sworn or affirmed after being commanded by a subpoena, in violation of MCR 9.112(D)(2) (Counts One-Three, Five, and Ten). The respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1), (2), and (4); and MRPC 8.4(a) and (c).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for a period of 18 months, that the respondent pay restitution in the aggregate amount of \$2,600, and that the respondent comply with a condition relevant to the established misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,455.55.

1. The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law since June 30, 2017. Please see Notice of Suspension, issued June 30, 2017, Grievance Administrator v Ronald Thomas Bruce Jr., ADB Case No. 15-122-GA.

Carolyn J. Jackson, P53018, Southfield, by the Attorney Discipline Board, affirming Tri-County Hearing Panel #53's Order of Suspension and Restitution (With Conditions), for 60 days, effective August 16, 2017.

Based on the respondent's default, the hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct in her representation of a client in a landlord-tenant matter and that she failed to answer a request for investigation. The panel found that the respondent neglected a legal matter entrusted to her, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter or to comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2); and failed to answer the request for investigation in conformity with MCR 9.113(A), in violation of MCR 9.104(7). The respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a) and (c).

The hearing panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 60 days; that she pay \$500 in restitution to the complainant; that she continue to meet with her mentor; and that she undergo a review of her office practices and procedures by the State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center. The respondent filed a petition for review and request for stay, and the discipline ordered by the hearing panel was automatically stayed pursuant to MCR 9.115(K). Upon review, the Board affirmed the hearing panel's order on January 31, 2017. The respondent filed an application for leave to appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court, which was denied on July 25, 2017. Total costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,149.

# Suspension and Restitution With Conditions ( By Consent)

Kenneth S. Karasick, P26238, Flint, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Genesee County Hearing Panel #5, for 180 days, effective September 1, 2017.

The respondent and the grievance administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. Based on the respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, the panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct in his representation of three separate clients: one for an appeal of a criminal matter and the handling of business matters while the client was incarcerated, one in a custody/visitation matter and clearing a warrant from a ticket, and one in a criminal matter.

Specifically, the panel found that the respondent failed to provide competent representation to a client, in violation of MRPC 1.1(a); neglected a legal matter, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client through reasonably available means, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep clients reasonably informed about the status of their matter and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the clients to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); failed to communicate the basis or rate of his fee, in violation of MRPC 1.5(b); failed to hold property of a client separate from the lawyer's own property, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); failed to deposit client funds into an IOLTA or non-IOLTA account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); failed to deposit legal fees and expenses that were paid in advance into a client trust account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(g); and upon termination of representation, failed to refund unearned fees, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d). The respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(a) and (c) and MCR 9.104(1)(3).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for 180 days. In addition, the parties stipulated, and the panel agreed, that the respondent pay restitution to four complainants in the total amount of \$8,500 and with the conditions that he attend the seminars offered by the State Bar of Michigan entitled "Tips and Tools for a Successful Practice" and "Lawyer Trust Accounts: Management Principles and Recordkeeping Resources." Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,204.07.

#### Suspension, Automatic Interim

Marcellus Long Jr., P43630, Pontiac, effective July 25, 2017.

On July 25, 2017, the respondent entered a guilty plea to a charge of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, in violation of 18 USC 371, a felony, in the matter of United States of America v Marcellus Long Jr., U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division. Upon acceptance of the plea by the court, the respondent was convicted and, in accordance with MCR 9.120(B)(1), the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan was automatically suspended.

Upon the filing of a certified judgment of conviction, this matter will be assigned to a hearing panel for further proceedings. The interim suspension will remain in effect until the effective date of an order filed by a hearing panel.

# Suspension<sup>1</sup> (Pending Review), Amended

**Otis M. Underwood Jr.**, P21678, Oxford, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #71, for 179 days, effective August 29, 2017.

The grievance administrator filed a formal complaint alleging that the respondent committed professional misconduct in his handling of a dispute over attorney fees stemming from the respondent's representation of a client in three separate actions directly related to an auto accident that occurred during the course of his client's employment. The hearing panel found that the respondent committed professional misconduct by bringing a proceeding or asserting an issue therein that was frivolous, in violation of MRPC 3.1; knowingly making a false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal or failing to correct a false statement of material fact or law previously made to the tribunal by him, in violation of MRPC 3.3(a)(1); and, in an ex parte proceeding, failing to inform the tribunal of all material facts that were known to the lawver, in violation of MRPC 3.3(d). The respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a).

The hearing panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 179 days. The grievance administrator filed a petition for review. The review hearing in this matter is scheduled for October 18, 2017.

1. Amended as to the date of the scheduled review hearing only.

# Suspensions Pursuant to MCR 9.115(H)(1), Interim

**Todd R. Branch**, P61823, Grosse Pointe Farms, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #1, effective August 9, 2017.

The respondent failed to appear at the August 2, 2017 hearing, and satisfactory proofs were entered in the record showing that the respondent possessed actual notice of the proceeding. On August 2, 2017, the hearing panel, in accordance with MCR 9.115(H)(1), issued an Order of Suspension effective August 9, 2017, and until further order of the panel or the Board.

**Jill A. Tucker**, P66839, Ann Arbor, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Washtenaw County Hearing Panel #2, effective August 23, 2017.

The respondent failed to appear at the August 14, 2017 hearing. On August 16, 2017, the hearing panel, in accordance with MCR 9.115(H)(1), issued an Order of Suspension effective August 23, 2017, and until further order of the panel or the Board.

# Suspension (With Conditions)

**Ralph J. Sirlin**, P24635, Royal Oak, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #52, for 180 days, effective August 29, 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Based on the respondent's default, the hearing panel found that he committed professional misconduct when he failed to

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answer an Attorney Grievance Commission request for investigation and failed to appear when subpoenaed. The panel found that the respondent failed to answer a request for investigation within the time prescribed, in violation of MCR 9.104(7), MCR 9.113(A), and MCR 9.113(B)(2); and knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2). The respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(c); and MCR 9.104(1)–(3).

The panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law be suspended for 180 days, along with the condition that he return any documents or files he may have in his possession regarding David F. Brantley. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,888.44.

# Suspension With Conditions (By Consent)

**Robert M. Craig**, P35139, Northville, by the Attorney Discipline Board, Tri-County Hearing Panel #60, for 179 days, effective August 8, 2017.

The respondent and the grievance administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contained the respondent's admission that he was convicted of operating while intoxicated/impaired, 2nd offense, a misdemeanor, in violation of PACC 257.6256B, in *People of the State of Michigan v Robert M. Craig*, 35th District Court Case No. 16N256.

Based on the respondent's conviction and his acknowledgment in the stipulation, it was established that the respondent engaged in conduct that violated the criminal laws of the state of Michigan, contrary to MCR 9.104(5).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that the respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 179 days. Additionally, the panel ordered that the respondent be subject to conditions relevant to the established misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$821.20.

The respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since August 2, 2017. Please see Order of Interim Suspension Pursuant to MCR 9.115(H)(1) [Failure to Appear], issued July 26, 2017.