

► Contact the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel at (512) 453-5535, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals at (512) 475-1578 or txboda.org, or the State Commission on Judicial Conduct at (512) 463-5533.

JUDICIAL ACTIONS

On October 23, 2014, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct issued a public reprimand to **Christopher Dupuy**, former judge of County Court at Law No. 3 in Galveston, Galveston County. Dupuy violated Canons 2A, 2B, 3B(1), 3B(4), 3B(5), 3B(8), and 4G of the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct and Article V §1-a(6)A of the Texas Constitution.

On November 18, 2014, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct issued a public reprimand and order of additional education to **Bobby R. Nicholds**, justice of the peace of Precinct 3 in Trinity, Trinity County. Nicholds violated Canons 2A, 2B, and 3B(2) of the Texas

Code of Judicial Conduct.

On October 15, 2014, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct approved a voluntary agreement to resign from judicial office in lieu of disciplinary action signed by **Craig A. Fletcher**, former judge of the Cherokee County Court of Law in Rusk, Cherokee County. A complaint was opened by the commission alleging that Fletcher had violated the Code of Judicial Conduct by signing an order modifying the conditions of probation in a case that was not assigned to his court. No findings of fact or conclusions of law have been made in connection with the above-referenced matter.

REINSTATEMENTS

Wendell Conn Radford Jr. [#16455520], 50, of Beaumont, has filed a petition in the 136th Judicial Civil District Court of Jefferson County for reinstatement as a member of the State Bar of Texas.

BODA

On March 27, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals dismissed for want of prosecution the appeal of Hollister, Missouri, attorney **Stephen W. Taliaferro** [#19621475], 66, from a judgment of disbarment signed on September 25, 2014, by the evidentiary panel of the District 15-3 Grievance Committee in Case No. 20137287. Taliaferro did not file a brief, and the board issued an order to show cause to Taliaferro on February 19, 2015. The show cause order gave him 30 days to respond and show cause as to why the appeal should not be dismissed for want of prosecution. Taliaferro did not respond. BODA Cause No. 55206.

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of sus-

pension of Houston attorney **John Holman Weigel** [#24013726], 41. On or about February 4, 2014, Weigel was suspended from the practice of law beginning May 4, 2015, for two years by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma in *State of Oklahoma ex rel. Oklahoma Bar Association, Complainant v. John Holman Weigel, Respondent*, SCBD 5864. Weigel answered and was noticed to appear but did not appear at the hearing. BODA Cause No. 55411.

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of fully probated suspension of Ruidoso, New Mexico, attorney **Michelle Rene'e Mladek** [#24046455], 50. On or about February 18, 2015, Mladek received a two-year fully probated suspension from the practice of law and a public censure from the Supreme Court of New Mexico in *In the Matter of Michelle Renee Mladek, Esquire, An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law Before the Courts of New Mexico*, No. 32,554. She was suspended from the practice of law in Texas for two years beginning May 4, 2015. The suspension was deferred, and she has been placed on probation for two years. Mladek appeared at the hearing. BODA Cause No. 55906.

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of disbarment against Houston attorney **Robert Joseph Andres** [#01237450], 64. On or about December 17, 2014, Andres pled guilty to wire fraud, an intentional crime as defined in the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, in *United States of America v. Robert J. Andres*, Case No. DUTX 2:11CR00985-001 RJS, in the U.S. District Court of Utah. Andres was sentenced to 56 months in the custody of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, followed

ATTORNEY GRIEVANCES

DON'T REPRESENT YOURSELF!

How often do you advise clients to represent themselves when accused of wrongdoing?

Why give yourself different advice?

CONSULTATION
OR REPRESENTATION

STEVEN L. LEE

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

11 years experience with the State Bar of Texas as Assistant and Deputy General Counsel as well as Acting General Counsel

LAW OFFICE OF
STEVEN L. LEE, P.C.

1411 WEST AVENUE, SUITE 100
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

(512) 215-2355

Representing Lawyers & Law Students Since 1991

STATEWIDE REPRESENTATION

by supervised release for three years. He was ordered to pay an assessment of \$100 and restitution of \$3,291,310.39. Andres answered and appeared at the hearing. BODA Cause No. 55904.

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an interlocutory order of suspension against Houston attorney **Gwendolyn F. Climmons** [#04390000], 55. On or about June 13, 2014, Climmons was convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud and four counts of health care fraud aiding and abetting, intentional crimes as defined in the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Climmons was sentenced to incarceration for 97 months, followed by supervised release for three years, in *United States of America v. Gwendolyn Climmons-Johnson* in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Holding Session, in Houston. She was ordered to pay an assessment of \$500 and restitution of \$972,132.22. Climmons has appealed her criminal conviction. She answered the petition but did not appear at the hearing. The board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeal is final. BODA Cause No. 55907.

On May 4, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an interlocutory order of suspension against Medford, New Jersey, attorney **James William Richards IV** [#00797313], 44. On or about April 26, 2013, Richards was court-martialed after being found guilty of child pornography and sexual abuse of a child, intentional crimes as defined in the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. He was also found guilty of failure to obey an order and was sentenced to incarceration in the Air Force Correction System for 17 years and ordered to forfeit all pay and allowances and was dismissed from the service in *United States v. Lieutenant Colonel James W. Richards IV*, Cause No. 38346, in the Department of the Air Force Headquarters Air Education and Training

Command at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas. Richards has appealed his criminal conviction. Richards did not answer or appear at the hearing. The board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the criminal appeal is final. BODA Cause No. 55908.

On May 14, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed a judgment of indefinite disability suspension against Princeton attorney **Chelsea L. Davis** [#24059652], 33, in accordance with Part XII of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and Section 8 of the Internal Procedural Rules of the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. BODA Cause No. 54202.


On May 6, 2015, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals signed an order granting a joint motion to remand for rendition and entry of an agreed judgment in the appeal of Austin attorney **Joe Daniel Stokes III** [#19274500], 67, of a judgment of a partially probated suspension issued by the evidentiary panel of the District 9-4 Grievance Committee in Case No. 201307247 on December 18, 2014. The committee was ordered to render judgment according to the agreed judgment suspending Stokes from the practice of law for three years from December 18, 2014, to January 7, 2018, with the last 30 months, from July 8, 2015, to January 7, 2018, probated. BODA Cause No. 56016.

DISBARMENTS

On March 3, 2015, **Charles Dee Septowski** [#18032325], 60, of St. Louis, Missouri, was disbarred. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that Septowski was actively suspended from the practice of law from May to July 2013, pursuant to a disciplinary judgment. While suspended, Septowski filed or caused to be filed pleadings on behalf of clients in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division. On several documents

Septowski signed, or caused to be signed, another attorney's name as the attorney submitting the pleading. The other attorney did not authorize Septowski, or anyone else, to sign her name to the documents or pleadings.

The bankruptcy court held two hearings to review the transactions of the attorneys. During those hearings, Septowski made several material misrepresentations to the court. Specifically, he claimed that the other attorney had agreed to participate in the bankruptcy matter, that she had been an associate of the firm, and that his paralegal or the other attorney handled matters during his suspension. During the second hearing, Septowski admitted that he had instructed the bankruptcy paralegal to file the documents and pleadings. After his active suspension was over, Septowski filed a pro hac vice application in the bankruptcy court. In



HASLEY SCARANO, L.L.P.
ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS

**OUR TRIAL TEAM HAS THE
EXPERIENCE AND
UNPARALLELED SUCCESS TO GET
THE RIGHT RESULTS.**

JENNIFER A. HASLEY
BOARD CERTIFIED, CIVIL TRIAL LAW
TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
20 YEARS TRIAL EXPERIENCE
INCLUDING AS
ASSISTANT DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
STATE BAR OF TEXAS

GREGORY M. HASLEY
20 YEARS TRIAL EXPERIENCE
FORMER VICE-CHAIR OF THE
TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE

VICTOR R. SCARANO
BOARD CERTIFIED, FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY
24 YEARS TRIAL EXPERIENCE
INCLUDING AS A MEMBER OF THE
DISABILITY ISSUES COMMITTEE AND
TEXAS LAWYERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**STATEWIDE PRACTICE
ETHICS, GRIEVANCE DEFENSE,
DISCIPLINARY APPEALS, AND
LEGAL MALPRACTICE**

5252 WESTCHESTER, SUITE 125
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77005
713.667.6900 / 713.667.6904 FAX
info@hasleyscarano.com
www.hasleyscarano.com

that application, Septowski misrepresented his disciplinary history.

Before his suspension, Septowski represented another debtor in the same bankruptcy court. He was not admitted to practice in the Northern District, and he did not file an application to be admitted pro hac vice in the case. Further, while suspended, Septowski sent, or caused to be sent, numerous emails to opposing counsel in a case pending in the 191st Judicial District Court of Dallas County.

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

Septowski violated Rules 3.03(a)(1), 7.01(d), 8.04(a)(1), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(7),

and 8.04(a)(11) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. He was ordered to pay \$23,079.72 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Septowski has filed an appeal.

On March 23, 2015, **Rogelio Vargas** [#00791848], 47, of San Antonio, was disbarred. The District 10-4 Grievance Committee found that Vargas neglected a client matter, failed to respond to a client's reasonable requests for information, and failed to refund the unearned portion of a fee.

Vargas violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d) and was ordered to pay \$3,880 in restitution and \$2,492.13 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

RESIGNATIONS

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

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

On April 14, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation in lieu of discipline of **Andrew Lee Siegel** [#18341825], 55, of Dallas. At the time of Siegel's resignation, there were two cases pending against him. Siegel was retained to prepare a private placement memorandum and subscription agreement. The private placement memorandum was created, and Siegel collected approximately \$1,595,000 from investors for the sale of stock certificates. Siegel concealed that he unlawfully used for his personal benefit up to \$410,000 of the collected monies. When confronted, Siegel created fraudulent and fictitious email(s) that falsely represented to the client that he had

attempted to wire transfer \$185,000 to the client's bank account.

Siegel was an equity partner in the law firm of SMM, and during employment, Siegel accepted a fee individually from a client in payment for legal services. Siegel did not have authority to bill or accept funds from the client in his individual capacity, only on behalf of SMM. Siegel failed to respond to the client's requests for information regarding the status of the representation. When the client obtained his file from SMM, he learned that Siegel had done no discernible legal work.

Siegel signed up three clients with SMM named Elephant Lamp I LLC, Elephant Lamp II LLC, and Elephant Lamp III LLC. All three entities were owned by Siegel. Siegel used SMM attorneys and staff to perform legal work for the three Elephant Lamp clients and then wrote off the fees owed to SMM by the three clients without SMM's knowledge or consent.

Siegel allegedly violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 8.04(a)(2), and 8.04(a)(3).

After leaving SMM, Siegel joined the law firm of SS. Siegel was retained by a client to complete the sale of a printing business. As part of the sale, \$400,000 was required to be held in escrow. The escrow agreement required that the \$400,000 be held in the escrow account for one year. During that one-year period, Siegel transferred \$275,000 from the escrow account for his own personal benefit and use without authorization from the client and in violation of the terms of the escrow agreement.

Siegel allegedly violated Rules 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 8.04(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(3).

SUSPENSIONS

On May 12, 2015, **Joe Daniel Stokes III** [#19274500], 67, of Austin, received a three-year partially probated suspension effective December 18, 2014, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel

STATE BAR GRIEVANCE DEFENSE

LEGAL MALPRACTICE

*Over 30 Years
Experience*

WAYNE H. PARIS
Two Riverway, Suite 1080
Houston, Texas 77056
(713) 951-9100

Statewide Representation

of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that in March 2011 the complainant hired Stokes to probate the complainant's mother's estate. Stokes failed to timely file the inventory, appraisal, and list of claims. On February 21, 2012, and again on March 16, 2012, the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County sent Stokes a notice that the inventory was overdue and set the matter for a compliance hearing. A year later, when Stokes had not complied with the requirement to file the inventory, the probate court served the complainant and Stokes with an order to show cause why the complainant should not be removed as independent executor and ordering all costs associated with the citation taxed against the complainant. Prior to the scheduled show cause hearing, respondent filed an inventory for the estate. The estate received a refund check for \$67.50 that was given to Stokes, who lost or misplaced the check and failed to give the funds to the complainant for the estate. Stokes failed to respond to the complainant's numerous requests for information from July 2013 to December 2013. The complainant, through his new counsel, requested his file from Stokes but Stokes failed to surrender the file as requested. Stokes further failed to furnish a written response to the complaint as directed.

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

On February 26, 2015, **George Michael Barnes** [#01767100], 60, of Fort Worth, received a 27-month active suspension effective March 1, 2015. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that Barnes failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the

Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so.

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

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

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

On March 30, 2015, **David Castillo** [#03984700], 54, of San Antonio, accepted a 16-month fully probated suspension effective May 1, 2015. The District 10-2 Grievance Committee found that Castillo neglected a client matter.

Castillo violated Rule 1.01(b)(1).

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

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

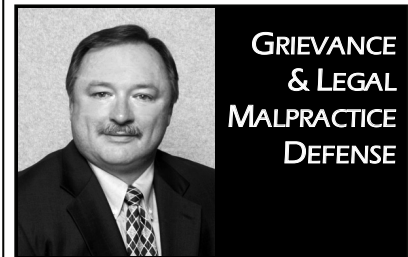
On March 23, 2015, **Oscar De La Fuente Jr.** [#05645575], 54, of Harlingen, agreed to a two-year partially probated suspension effective June 1, 2015, with the first six months actively served and the remainder probated. The District 15 Grievance Committee found that De La Fuente sought to influence a tribunal concerning a pending matter by means prohibited

by law or applicable rules of practice or procedure, engaged in an ex parte communication with a tribunal for the purpose of influencing the tribunal concerning a pending matter, engaged in conduct that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty and trustworthiness of fitness as a lawyer, and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

De La Fuente violated Rules 3.05(a), 3.05(b), 4.01(b), 8.04(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$5,000 in attorneys' fees and expenses.

On March 13, 2015, **Evin G. Dugas** [#06172950], 54, of Lakeway, received a one-year probated suspension effective March 5, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that the complainant hired Dugas to represent her in a suit against a home

*Will you REPRESENT YOURSELF?
Socrates did and how did that
turn out for him?*



**GRIEVANCE
& LEGAL
MALPRACTICE
DEFENSE**

BRUCE A. CAMPBELL

OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN
DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND
LEGAL MALPRACTICE DEFENSE

STATEWIDE PRACTICE

CAMPBELL & ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM, PC
4201 SPRING VALLEY RD.
SUITE 1250
DALLAS, TX 75244

972-277-8585(O)
972-277-8586(F)
INFO@CLLEGAL.COM
CLLEGAL.COM

builder for defective construction. Dugas filed suit in March 2010 against Matrix Homes LLC and the manager of Matrix. Matrix and the manager filed special exceptions, and the manager filed a motion for partial summary judgment but Dugas failed to file a response to either. A partial summary judgment was granted wherein the court found that the manager was not a proper party to the suit and denied all claims against him. Additionally, Dugas failed to timely respond to written discovery requests. An order compelling responses and awarding \$600 as sanctions was entered in 2011. Dugas took no further action on the case until March 2014, when he filed a request for a jury trial and set the matter for trial. The matter was tried in April 2014. The complainant obtained a judgment against Matrix. However, as of September 2013, Matrix was no

longer a viable entity able to conduct business in Texas. The complainant and her husband attempted on numerous occasions between 2011 and 2014 to contact Dugas by telephone and email regarding the status of the case, but Dugas failed to respond.

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

Dugas has filed an appeal.

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

Hennigan violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(7), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$2,500 in restitution and \$1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On April 10, 2015, **Dean Yongchurl Joe** [#24053287], 38, of Austin, received a two-year probated suspension. The 98th District Court of Travis County found that Joe violated Rules 1.03(a) [prohibits lawyers from failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], 1.04(d) [requires that upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client with a written statement describing the outcome of the matter and, if there is a

recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its determination], 1.14(a) [requires a lawyer to hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients that are in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property], 1.14(b) [requires a lawyer upon receiving funds or other property in which a client has an interest, to promptly notify the client and promptly deliver to the client any funds that the client is entitled to receive], and 8.04(a)(1) [prohibits lawyers from violating the disciplinary rules].

Joe was ordered to pay \$4,733 in restitution and \$1,100 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On April 1, 2015, **Bruce A. Lipshy** [#12413000], 73, of Austin, received an agreed judgment of probated suspension from April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2017. The 98th District Court of Travis County found that Lipshy violated Rules 1.14(b) [failing to render a full accounting], 1.14(c) [disbursing funds to persons not entitled to receive them], and 8.04(a)(1) [prohibits lawyers from violating the disciplinary rules]. Lipshy was ordered to pay \$20,000 in restitution and \$4,402.62 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On April 28, 2015, **Jennifer Jackson Morones** [#24046480], 39, of Silsbee, accepted an 18-month fully probated suspension effective May 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that while a partner in the law firm in which another lawyer practiced, Morones violated the rules of professional conduct when, with knowledge of the other lawyer's misconduct, she knowingly failed to take reasonable remedial action to avoid or mitigate the consequences of the other lawyer's violation.

Morones violated Rule 5.01(b).

When your client becomes your adversary...

It's time to hire Gaines West

State Bar of Texas
Grievance Oversight Committee
Appointed by the Texas Supreme Court
Chair, 2006-2010
Member, 2004-2010

Texas Board of Disciplinary Appeals
Appointed by the Texas Supreme Court
Chairman, 2001-2003
Vice Chairman, 1994-1996, 1998-2000
Member, 1992-1996, 1997-2003

State Bar of Texas
Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Committee
Member, 1993-1996

Disciplinary Review Committee
Member, 1991-1992

Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow
State Bar of Texas, Member
Brazos County Bar Association, Member

WEST • WEBB ALBRITTON & GENTRY

EXPERIENCE, DEPTH-OF-STAFF, DIPLOMACY, TENACITY

Representing Attorneys
Principal Office – 979.694.7000
1515 Emerald Plaza • College Station, TX 77845
Austin – 512.501.3617
260 Addie Roy Rd., Suite 110 • Austin, TX 78746
www.westwebcblaw.com



She was ordered to pay \$1,500 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

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

Thomas violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$300 in restitution and \$1,382.55 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

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

Walsh violated Rule 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$5,192.70 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Walsh did not file an appeal.

On January 8, 2015, **Craig A. Washington Sr.** [#20901000], 73, of Houston, received a four-year partially probated suspension with 18 months active. The 335th District Court of Bastrop County found that Washington committed professional misconduct by violating Rules 1.01(b)(1) [neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer], 1.03(a) [failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information], 1.15(d) [upon termination of represen-

tation, 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], and 8.04(a)(3) [engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation]. On March 12, 2015, a modified judgment was entered imposing a four-year partially probated suspension with 12 months active.

Washington was ordered to pay \$24,693.74 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

Washington has filed an appeal.

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS

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

Harper violated Rule 1.14(b). She was ordered to pay \$1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On May 1, 2015, **LaKisha Shuntel Anderson-Sinville** [#24053073], 40, of Tyler, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 2 Grievance Committee found that in representing the complainant in appellate and post-conviction matters, Anderson-Sinville failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of his legal matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant about his legal matter.

Anderson-Sinville violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). She was ordered to pay \$2,800 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses. **TBJ**

TLIEexperience



Mike Yarber,
President

Because of our 35 years in the business, Texas Lawyers' Insurance Exchange has been voted best professional liability insurance company in Texas four years in a row by Texas Lawyer magazine. That same experience and our exceptional employees are why TLIE is also a Preferred Provider of the State Bar of Texas. Not to mention, we have returned over \$36,550,000 to our policyholders. See why experience makes the difference.

512.480.9074 / 1.800.252.9332
INFO@TLIE.ORG / WWW.TLIE.ORG

@TLIE_ facebook.com/TLIE01

