

Professional Discipline Digest

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By Michael F. Romano

Attorney ordered by agreement to attend three in-person credit hours of Continuing Legal Education in Legal Ethics for violation of Rules 1.4(a)(4) and 1.15(e) of the Rules of Professional Conduct by failing to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information and failing to promptly render a full accounting of funds despite Complainant's requests. *Stavola v. Alfred J. Cali*. #15-0351 (10 pages)

Presentment ordered after hearing for violation of Rules 1.15(e), 8.1(2), and 8.4(3) of the Rules of Professional Conduct where Attorney failed to appear or answer the grievance complaint alleging that Complainant was a health care provider to whom Attorney had provided letters of protection in two separate personal injury cases and that Attorney made multiple misrepresentations to Complainant he would follow up with Complainant's inquiries and provide Complainant with additional information. Attorney further failed to notify Complainant of Attorney's receipt of funds or provide an accounting of funds, or promptly deliver funds to Complainant. *Cianciolo v. John Michael Puzio*. #15-0299 (6 pages)

Presentment ordered after hearing at which Attorney did not attend for violation of Rules 1.15(b), 1.15(c), 1.15(i), 1.15(j)(3), and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and for violation of § 2-27 of the Practice Book by depositing and holding personal funds in his IOLTA account; by paying personal bills out of his IOLTA account and by giving third party access to his IOLTA account through ACH transfers; by making cash withdrawals from his IOLTA account; by failing to maintain complete records of his clients' funds account funds; by failing to respond to Bar Counsel's request for clients' funds

account documentation, and by failing to completely respond to Disciplinary Counsel's request for clients' funds account documentation. *Bowler v. Joseph S. Elder*. #15-0270 (5 pages)

Attorney ordered by agreement to attend three in-person credit hours of Continuing Legal Education in Legal Ethics for violation of Rules 8.1(2) and 8.4(4) of the Rules of Professional Conduct by failing to be diligent in his third party deposition request and by bringing a frivolous action. *Alcorn v. Michael Voytek*. #15-0353 (8 pages)

Presentment ordered by agreement for purposes of consolidation. *Thornton v. Robert J. Barry*. #15-0673 (6 pages)

Presentment ordered after hearing at which Attorney did not attend for violation of Rules 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and for violation of § 2-32(a)(1) of the Practice Book by failing to take any action in Complainant's foreclosure matter after filing an appearance; by never communicating with the Complainant and by failing to answer the grievance complaint. *Harrison v. Anthony Vincent Zeolla*. #15-0296 (6 pages)

Presentment ordered after hearing at which Attorney did not attend for violation of Rules 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5(b), and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and for violation of § 2-32(a)(1) of the Practice Book by failing to take any action in Complainant's foreclosure matter; by stopping communicating with Complainant; by failing to provide Complainant with a written fee agreement; and by failing to answer the grievance complaint. *Otero v. Anthony Vincent Zeolla*. #15-0369 (6 pages)

Presentment ordered after hearing at which Attorney did not attend for violation of Rules 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5(a) and (b),

and 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and for violation of § 2-32(a)(1) of the Practice Book by not initiating lawsuit as was promised and after filing initial documents in defense of lawsuit against Complainant failed to take any action in Complainant's matter; by stopping communicating with Complainant; by failing to provide Complainant with a written fee agreement; by failing to answer the grievance complaint; and by charging an excessive fee in that little or no action was taken on Complainant's matter. *Neville v. Anthony Vincent Zeolla*. #15-0450 (6 pages)

Reprimand ordered after hearing at which Attorney did not attend for violation of Rules 1.1, 1.2(a), 1.3, 1.4(a)(2),(3) and (4), 1.5(a) & (b), 1.15(b), 8.1(2), and 8.4(1) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and for violation of § 2-32(a)(1) of the Practice Book by failing to take any action to progress Complainant's divorce, after filing the complaint; by failing to adequately consult with Complainant regarding the means by which to pursue Complainant's objectives in connection with the representation; by failing to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of the matter and failing to promptly comply with Complainant's reasonable requests for information; by charging an unreasonable fee in consideration of the amount involved and the results obtained; by failing to provide Complainant with a copy of a fee agreement in connection with the representation; by failing to deposit Complainant's tax refund into an IOLTA account; and by failing to file an answer to the grievance complaint. *Coonan v. Ross A. Annenberg*. #15-0449 (6 pages). **CL**