

DISCIPLINARY QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: April 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014

REPORT BY DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

Final Decisions

Final Decisions of the NM Supreme Court2

Matter of James Klipstine, Esq. (Disciplinary No. 11-2009-583) New Mexico Supreme Court entered an order granting Respondent's motion for reinstatement to non-probationary active status effective immediately.

Matter of Sabrina Price, Esq. (Disciplinary No. 04-2014-690) New Mexico Supreme Court entered an order suspending Respondent for a period of no less than five (5) years from the practice of law based on reciprocal discipline from Arizona for general incompetence and failing to return unearned fees in immigration related cases. Respondent was ordered to pay full restitution to all persons identified by the Arizona Supreme Court, to reimburse the Client Protection Fund of this State or any other jurisdiction that a client made claims against Respondent, comply with all Rules, and continue to comply with the requirements for continuing legal education.

Summary Suspensions

Total number of attorneys summarily suspended0

Disability Suspensions

Total number of attorneys placed on disability suspension0

Charges Filed

Charges were filed against an attorney for allegations of failing to competently represent a client; failing to abide by the client's objectives and failing to consult with the client about the means by which they are pursued; failing to act with reasonable diligence in representing a client; failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter; failing to charge a reasonable fee; and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Charges were filed against an attorney for allegations of failing to provide competent representation to a client; failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; failing to reasonably consult with the client about the means by which the client's

objectives are to be accomplished; failing to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter; failing to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; failing to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation; by charging an unreasonable fee; failing to distribute undisputed fees to the client; failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority; failing to give full cooperation and assistance to disciplinary counsel; violating the Rules of Professional Conduct; engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice; and failing to maintain his address of record with the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Charges were filed against an attorney for allegations of failing to provide competent representation to a client; failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; failing to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of a matter; failing to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation; failing to make reasonable efforts to expedite litigation consistent with the interests of the client; failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority; failing to give full cooperation and assistance to disciplinary counsel; by violating the Rules of Professional Conduct; and by engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Charges were filed against an attorney for allegations of failing to provide competent representation to a client; failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; failing to consult with and keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter; violating the Rules of Professional Conduct; engaging in conduct involving misrepresentation; and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Petitions for Reciprocal Discipline Filed

Petitions for reciprocal discipline filed1

See “Final Decisions” above.

Petitions for Reinstatement Filed

Petitions for reinstatement filed1

Jose Angel Silva, Jr., Esq. (Disciplinary No. 02-2009-564) Respondent has petitioned for reinstatement to practice law. The matter is pending.

Formal Reprimands

Total number of attorneys formally reprimanded0

Informal Admonitions

Total number of attorneys admonished0

Letters of Caution

Total number of attorneys cautioned14

Attorneys were cautioned for the following conduct: (1) general incompetence (3 letters of caution issued); (2) failure to communicate; (3) improper withdrawal; (4) bank overdraft; (5) improper administrative conduct; (6) general neglect (2 letters of caution issued); (7) serious crime; (8) failure to communicate; (9) safe keeping of property; (10) general misrepresentation to the Court; and (11) ineffective assistance of counsel.

Complaints Received

<i>Allegations</i>	<i>No. of Complaints</i>
Trust Account Violations.....	4
Conflict of Interest.....	0
Neglect and/or Incompetence.....	88
Misrepresentation or Fraud.....	11
Relationship with Client or Court.....	27
Fees.....	5
Improper Communications.....	1
Criminal Activity.....	1
Personal Behavior.....	9
Other.....	10
Total number of complaints received.....	156