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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
(Pending Appeal)

Case No. 15-29-GA

Notice Issued: October 7, 2016

Richard A. Meier, P 38204, Novi, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #80.

1. Suspension - Two Years
2. Effective October 7, 2016

Respondent filed an answer to the formal complaint and appeared at the hearing. Based on the evidence presented by the parties at the hearings held in this matter, the hearing panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct in his representation of three separate clients pursuing claims against their respective employers.

The panel found that respondent handled two legal matters without preparation adequate in the circumstances, in violation of MRPC 1.1(b); neglected three legal matters, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness on behalf of three separate clients, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep three clients reasonably informed as to the status of their legal matters and respond promptly to reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a legal matter to three separate clients to the extent necessary for the client to make informed decisions, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); and failed to respond to a legally proper discovery request in pretrial procedure in one matter, in violation of MRPC 3.4(d). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(2) and (3) and MRPC 8.4(b).

The panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for two years. The respondent filed a petition for review and a petition for stay on September 27, 2016, seeking a dismissal of the matter or a decrease in discipline imposed. The Board has scheduled a review hearing on December 14, 2016. Respondent's request for a stay pending review remains under advisement. An interim stay has been granted until further order of the Board.

Mark A. Armitage

Dated: October 7, 2016