MEMBERS JAMES M. CAMERON, JR. CHAIRPERSON LAWRENCE G. CAMPBELL VICE-CHAIRPERSON DULCE M. FULLER SECRETARY ROSALIND E. GRIFFIN, M.D. SYLVIA P. WHITMER, Ph.D LOUANN VAN DER WIELE MICHAEL MURRAY JAMES A. FINK JOHN W. INHULSEN

## STATE OF MICHIGAN ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD



211 WEST FORT STREET, SUITE 1410 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3236 PHONE: 313-963-5553 | FAX: 313-963-5571 MARK A. ARMITAGE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WENDY A. NEELEY DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHERRY L. MIFSUD OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR JENNIFER M. PETTY PARALEGAL KATHLEEN PHILLIPS CASE MANAGER ALLYSON M. PLOURDE CASE MANAGER JULIE M. LOISELLE RECEPTIONIST www.adbmich.org

## **NOTICE OF DISBARMENT AND RESTITUTION**

Case No. 14-96-GA

## Notice Issued: February 5, 2015

Michael R. Josey, P 36364, Detroit, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #19.

- 1. Disbarment
- 2. Effective January 31, 2015<sup>1</sup>

Respondent did not appear at the hearing and was found to be in default for failing to file an answer to the formal complaint. Based on respondent's default, the hearing panel found that respondent neglected two client matters, 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 keep his client reasonably informed about the status of their matter, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to communicate with two clients to the extent necessary for the clients to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); collected an illegal and excessive fee in three matters, in violation of MRPC 1.5(a); failed to promptly pay or deliver funds that a client or third party is entitled to receive, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); and failed to timely refund the advance payment of an unearned fee to two clients and failed to surrender papers to a client after termination of the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d).

Additionally, the panel found that respondent violated or attempted to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct contrary to MRPC 8.4(a) and MCR 9.104(4); engaged in conduct which exposed the legal profession to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2); engaged in conduct that was contrary to justice, ethics, honesty, or good morals, in violation of MCR 9.104(3); engaged in conduct that was prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MRPC 8.4(c) and MCR 9.104(1); and engaged in conduct which involved misrepresentation, deceit, fraud, and dishonesty, in violation of MRPC 8.4(b).

Finally, the panel found that respondent violated two orders of discipline, in violation of MCR 9.104(9); failed to answer six requests for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7); MCR 9.113(A), and MCR 9.113(B)(2); failed to notify his clients of his suspension from the practice of law, in violation of MCR 9.119(A); failed to file proof of compliance with the orders of discipline, in violation of MCR 9.119(C); and practiced law and held himself out as an attorney after the effective date of his suspension, in violation of MCR 9.119(E).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

## STATE OF MICHIGAN • ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD

February 5, 2015

Page 2

The panel ordered that respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan and pay restitution in the aggregate amount of \$9,713.00. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,841.75.

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Mark A. Armitage **FEB** - 5 2015 Dated: