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NOTICE OF DISBARMENT (Pending Appeal)

Case No. 13-136-GA

Notice Issued: February 13, 2015

John S. Davidson, P 35979, Troy, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing #63.

- 1. Disbarment
- 2. Effective January 21, 2015

Respondent appeared at the hearing and filed an answer to the formal complaint. Based on the evidence and testimony submitted, the hearing panel found that respondent, designated as a "paymaster" in a joint venture project, failed to hold funds or property of clients or third persons separate from the lawyer's own property and failed to adequately safeguard such funds or property, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); failed to preserve complete records of client or third party funds for a period of five years after termination of representation, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(2); engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit and/or misrepresentation, or a violation of the criminal law, in violation of MRPC 8.4(b); engaged in conduct that exposes the legal profession to obloquy, contempt, censure, and/or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2); and engaged in conduct that is contrary to justice, ethics, honesty, or good moral character, in violation of MCR 9.104(3).

The panel ordered that respondent be disbarred from the practice law in Michigan, effective January 21, 2015. Respondent filed a petition for review, along with a request for a stay of discipline. The Grievance Administrator filed an objection to respondent's request, and, on February 13, 2015, the Attorney Discipline Board denied respondent's request for a stay of discipline.

This matter has been scheduled for review proceedings before the Attorney Discipline Board.

Mark A. Armitage

Dated: FEB 1 3 2015