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FINAL NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION

Case No. 14-76-GA

Notice Issued: December 2, 2014

Robert Joseph Payne, P 69779, Lansing, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Ingham County Hearing Panel #3.

1. Suspension - One Year
2. Effective December 2, 2014¹

Respondent did not appear at the hearing and was found to be in default for his failure to file an answer to the formal complaint. Based on respondent's default, the hearing panel found that respondent neglected a legal matter entrusted to him, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek his client's lawful objectives through reasonably available means permitted by law, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing his client, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to adequately communicate with his client, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a) and (b); failed to refund an unearned fee upon termination of the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); and failed to answer a request for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7) and MCR 9.1 13(B)(2). The panel further found that respondent violated MRPC 8.4(a) and (c) and MCR 9.104(1)-(4).

The panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for one year and that he pay restitution in the amount of \$250.00. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,806.69.

Mark A. Armitage

Dated: DEC - 2 2014

¹ Respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since March 12, 2014. Please see Notice of Suspension and Restitution issued March 14, 2014.