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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION (Pending Appeal)

Case No. 14-39-GA

Notice Issued: August 26, 2014

Matthew Charles Justice, P 71390, Plainwell, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Allegan County Hearing Panel #1.

- 1. Suspension 180 Days
- 2. Effective August 21, 2014

Respondent appeared at the hearing but was found to be in default for his failure to file an answer to the formal complaint. Based on that default, the hearing panel found that respond t neglected two client matters, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing two clients, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep two clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the clients to make informed decisions about the representations in two matters, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); collected an excessive or illegal fee in one matter, in violation of MRPC 1.5(a); failed to promptly pay or deliver funds that one of his clients was entitled to receive, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b); brought or defended a proceeding, or asserted or controverted an issue therein, unless there was a basis for doing so that was not frivolous, in violation of MRPC 3.1; knowingly disobeyed an obligation under the rules of a tribunal in three matters, in violation of MRPC 3.4(c); failed to respond to the lawful demands of the Grievance Administrator, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2); failed to answer three requests for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7), MCR 9.113(A), and MCR 9.113(B)(2); and engaged in conduct which involved dishonesty, fraud, deceit and misrepresentation, in violation of MRPC 8.4(b). Respondent was also found to have 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 180 days and that he pay restitution in the aggregate amount of \$4,411.00. Respondent filed a petition for review and motion for a stay of discipline. On August 22, 2014, the Attorney Discipline Board denied respondent's motion for stay and modified the order of discipline as to the payment of costs and restitution. This matter will be scheduled for hearing before the Attorney Discipline Board.

Mark A. Armitage

AUG 2 6 2014

Dated: