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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION WITH CONDITION (By Consent)

Case No. 07-78-GA

Notice Issued: January 18, 2008

John F. Mertz, P 25200, Lansing, Michigan by the Attorney Discipline Board Ingham County Hearing Panel #1.

- 1. Suspension 60 Days
- 2. Effective January 17, 2008

The respondent and Grievance Administrator filed a stipulation for consent order of discipline, in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), containing respondent's plea of no contest to the allegations that he neglected a legal matter; failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client; failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness; failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of a matter; failed to refund an unearned fee; failed to return client property; engaged in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice; engaged in conduct that exposes the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach; engaged in conduct that is contrary to justice, ethics, honesty, or good morals; and failed to answer a request for investigation.

Respondent was charged with violations of Michigan Court Rules 9.104(A)(1)-(4) and (7); 9.113(A) and (B)(2) and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(c); 1.2(a); 1.3; 1.4(a); 1.16(d); 8.1(a)(2); and 8.4(a) and (c).

The panel, pursuant to the agreement of the parties, ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 60 days and that he pay restitution in the amount of \$8,500.00. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$855.91.

John F. Van Bolt

Dated: JAN 18 2008