

**NOTICE OF SUSPENSION**  
**(By Consent)**

Case Nos. 05-69-GA; 06-64-GA; 06-65-JC

**Notice Issued: October 6, 2006**

Paul W. Sawyer, P 53077, Mt. Clemens, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board  
Tri-County Hearing Panel #108.

1. Suspension - 180 Days
2. Effective October 5, 2006

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, in one matter, he received unreasonable compensation for legal services rendered. In a second matter, respondent pled no contest to the allegations that he failed to provide competent representation to a client; neglected a legal matter entrusted to him; failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information; failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to make informed decisions regarding the representation; and failed to make reasonable efforts to expedite litigation consistent with the interests of the client; failed to communicate the basis or rate of his fee, preferably in writing, before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation; and failing to place his contingent fee agreement in writing and to provide a copy to the client. Finally, in a third matter, respondent pled no contest to the allegations that he failed to place a contingent fee in writing; failed to provide a copy to the client; failed to provide his client with a written statement of the outcome of the matter and, if there is a recovery, show the remittance to the client and the method of its determination; and engaged in conduct that is prejudicial to the proper administration of justice.

Additionally, respondent admitted that he was convicted of the following misdemeanors: operating while visibly impaired by liquor on November 3, 2004 in the 41B District Court; operating while visibly impaired on November 5, 2004 in the 41-A District Court; and operating while intoxicated on February 9, 2005 in the 37<sup>th</sup> District Court .

Respondent was charged with violations of MCR 5.313(A); MCR 8.121(F); MCR 9.104(A)(1); and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(a) and (c); 1.3; 1.4(a) and (b); 1.5(c); 3.2; and 8.4(c)

Based on the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law shall be suspended for 180 days, effective October 5, 2006, and imposed a condition relevant to the alleged misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,449.99.