

## **NOTICE OF REPRIMAND**

Case No. 00-47-GA

Issued: October 23, 2000

Robert L. Harley, Jr., P-30166, Rockford, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Kent County Hearing Panel #5.

1. Reprimand.
2. Effective October 21, 2000.

The hearing panel accepted respondent's plea of "no contest" to Formal Complaint 00-47-GA and accordingly found that respondent had committed misconduct, specifically: In a probate matter, respondent failed to publish notice of the administration of the estate; failed to prepare an inventory; failed to promptly obtain replacements of uncashed annuity checks; failed to take prompt action to resolve a land contract issue; failed to keep his client reasonably informed regarding the status of the probate matter or to respond to his numerous telephone messages; failed to enter into a written fee agreement with his client; failed to provide notice to the interested parties of a fee agreement; accepted payment for his services without prior court approval, notice to the interested parties or having entered into a written fee agreement; and failed to provide his client with an adequate written itemization of the services rendered and the actual time spent by respondent in providing such services. Respondent's conduct was found to be in violation of MCR 9.104(1)-(4); and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(a)-(c); 1.2(a); 1.3; 1.4(a); 1.5(a); 3.4(c) and 8.4(a)-(c).

The hearing panel ordered that respondent be reprimanded with a condition relevant to the established misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$465.79.