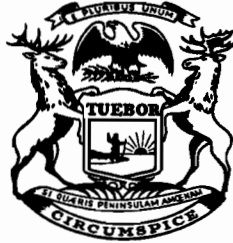


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NOTICE OF DISBARMENT
(By Consent)

Case No. 19-61-GA

Notice Issued: October 22, 2019

Joseph E. Baessler, P 23968, Flint, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Genesee County Hearing Panel #3.

Disbarment, Effective October 19, 2019

The respondent and the Grievance Administrator filed a Stipulation for Consent Order of Disbarment, in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contained respondent's admissions that he committed professional misconduct in his capacity as an appointed conservator for an incapacitated individual from 1984 through April 14, 2018, when it was discovered that respondent had paid himself from the conservatorship without first seeking compensation from Farmers Insurance within the permissible time periods; failed to file Annual Accounts of Fiduciary to hide his use of the conservatorship funds and to keep his use of the funds from the court's scrutiny; embezzled money from his client; and breached his fiduciary duty as a conservator.

Based upon respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, the panel found that respondent failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client, in violation of MRPC 1.3; collected a clearly illegal or excessive fee, in violation of MRPC 1.5(a); and engaged in conduct that violated a criminal law of a state or of the United States, in violation of MCR 9.104(5). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(3); and MRPC 8.4(b)-(c).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$757.14.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Armitage", written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Armitage
Executive Director