

NOTICE OF REVOCATION AND RESTITUTION  
(By Consent)

Case Nos. 99-049-GA

Issued: December 29, 1999

John E. Stover, P-24281, Oxford, Michigan by the Attorney  
Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #77.

- 1) Revocation;
- 2) Effective March 30, 1998.

The respondent and the Grievance Administrator submitted a stipulation for consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(f)(5). The stipulation was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and was accepted by a hearing panel. Respondent entered a plea of no contest to the allegations of professional misconduct contained in Formal Complaint 99-049-GA, to wit: that in his representation of defendant in a civil matter, respondent failed to comply with his client's request to file a counter-claim, accepted a mediation evaluation without the prior knowledge or consent of his client and failed to keep his client reasonably informed regarding the status of the matter; in his representation of the client in another matter, respondent failed to take action to protect his client's interests and abandoned the representation without notice to the client; in his representation of the plaintiff in a civil matter, respondent failed to inform his client of the mediation evaluation, stipulated to the dismissal of the matter without his client's consent and made false statements to the client regarding the status of that case; respondent accepted payments of \$7,500.00 in settlement of his client's claims but failed to maintain the funds as a fiduciary and misappropriated those funds; and failed to return unearned fees. Respondent's conduct was alleged to be in violation of MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(a)-(c); 1.3; 1.4(a); 3.2; 3.3(a) and (c); 1.15(a)-(c); 1.16(d) and 8.4(a)-(c).

The parties agreed that respondent may be subject to an order revoking his license to practice law effective March 30, 1998, the effective date of a prior suspension of five years imposed in Grievance Administrator v John Stover, Case No. 98-126-JC. The parties further stipulated that respondent shall make restitution in the amount of \$7,500.00 to the complainant. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$92.38.

1 Respondent's license has been continuously suspended since September 21, 1998. See Notice of Revocation and Restitution

dated December 2, 1998, Case Nos. 98-143-GA; 98-166-FA.