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NOTICE OF DISBARMENT AND RESTITUTION

Case No. 17-156-GA

Notice Issued: July 24, 2019

Julian M. Levant, P 16592, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #77.

Disbarment, Effective July 20, 2019

Based on respondent's default and the evidence presented at the hearing, the hearing panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct by, among other things, commingling, converting and misappropriating his clients' funds in four separate counts of the Formal Complaint.

The panel found that respondent failed to provide competent representation to his clients, in violation of MRPC 1.1; neglected legal matters entrusted to him, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of his clients through reasonably available means permitted by law and the rules of the court and rules of professional conduct, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing his clients, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and to comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the clients to make informed decisions regarding their representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); failed to promptly payout or deliver funds that a third person was entitled to receive and failed to promptly render a full accounting of such funds, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); failed to promptly deliver funds to his client that the client was entitled to receive and failed to promptly render a full accounting of such funds, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); failed to appropriately safeguard client and third party funds by failing to maintain them in an IOLTA and/or client trust account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); converted and/or misappropriated the funds provided to him by his clients, for the purpose of paying the client's judgment owed to a third person, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); converted and/or misappropriated the funds provided to him by his client for the specific purpose of safekeeping from a disputed creditor, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); and held client and/or third person funds in a business operating account, not in an IOLTA or non-IOLTA client trust account, and commingled said funds with his own, in violation of MRPC 1.15(a)(3); 1.15(d); and, 1.15(f). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(3) and MRPC 8.4(b) and (c).

The panel ordered that respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan and that he be required to pay restitution in the total amount of \$75,630.00. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$4,904.25.

Mark A. Armitage
Executive Director