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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION

Case No. 16-131-GA

Notice Issued: July 13, 2018

Carolyn J. Jackson, P 53018, Southfield, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #66.

Suspension - 180 Days, Effective May 17, 2018

After proceedings in accordance with MCR 9.115, the hearing panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct in her handling of her client's mother's estate; failing to notify a client of her suspension from the practice of law; failing to withdraw from a matter or otherwise notify the court that she was disqualified from representing a client on a motion; maintaining a website and telephone recording through which she continued to hold herself out to the public as an attorney during the period of her suspension from the practice of law; making materially false statements in affidavits filed with the Board; failing to answer requests for investigation; and failing to appear pursuant to subpoenas.

The panel found that respondent neglected a legal matter entrusted to her, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and failing to comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to hold client property separate from her own property, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); failed to deposit legal fees and expenses paid in advance into a client trust account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(g); failed to refund the unearned portion of an advance fee, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); failed to surrender papers and property to which the client was entitled, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2); failed to answer a request for investigation within 21 days, in violation of MCR 9.113(A) and (B)(2) and MCR 9.104(7); failed to notify all active clients of her suspension in writing by registered or certified mail, in violation of MCR 9.119(A); failed to file with the tribunal and all parties a notice of her disgualification from the practice of law, in a matter in which she represented a client in litigation, in violation of MCR 9.119(B); held herself out as an attorney, in violation of MCR 9.119(E)(4); and filed an affidavit of compliance which contained a materially false statement, in violation of MCR 9.123(A). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(3); and MRPC 8.4(b).

The panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law be suspended for a period of 180 days and that she be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$200.00. Respondent filed a timely petition for review and petition for a stay of discipline. The Board denied respondent's request for stay on May 25, 2018. Respondent failed to file a brief in support of her petition for review and the Board issued an order dismissing her petition on June 14, 2018.

Mark A. Armitage

Executive Director