

Attorney Discipline Board



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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

File No. DP-191/80 & DP-164/80
(Two Consolidated Complaints)

LARRY A. GIRARD (P 14022), 24800 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 203, Southfield, MI 48075, by the Attorney Discipline Board affirming the hearing panel decision pursuant to a delayed petition for review.

- (1) Suspension;
- (2) For a period of 180 days;
- (3) Effective June 16th (as previously published in prior notice of suspension pending appeal).

The hearing panel found that Respondent had violated the Rules of Professional Conduct as alleged in two consolidated Formal Complaints consisting of a combined total of twelve counts. The panel found that Respondent failed to provide services agreed upon and neglected the prosecution of a civil action to enforce a judgment after receiving a retainer fee; that Respondent was paid a fee and agreed to handle a divorce action, filed the Complaint, but failed to enforce an interim order for support, adjourn various hearing dates, failed or refused to communicate with the client despite numerous calls by the client, failed to appear at the hearing on the motion for entry of default judgment against his client, failed to notify the client of said hearing and the results thereof, and failed to provide a copy of the judgment to his client, and failed to take further steps to represent the client's interests; that Respondent agreed to appeal a certain criminal sentence and was paid a fee of \$2,100.00, but neglected to pursue the matter and failed to account to the party paying the fee regarding services rendered; that Respondent divided a fee without consent of the client and without regard to the proportion of services performed by the payee-referring attorney; that Respondent failed to file or prepare a criminal appellate brief resulting in dismissal for lack of progress, failed to disclose the dismissal to the criminal client, misrepresenting the status of the case to the client and taking no further action on the client's behalf; that Respondent neglected a portion of a personal injury claim involving monthly medical and home care expenses after having settled on other damages for the client and failed to meet with the clients as scheduled. The panel found that Respondent was guilty of misconduct in connection with charges that he failed to answer 7 Requests for Investigation submitted by the Grievance Administrator in violation of GCR 953(7) and 962.2(b).

164

Notice of Suspension
In Re Larry A. Girard
Page Two

The panel found violations of Canons 1, 6, and 7 of the Code of Professional Responsibility. The panel found no evidence in mitigation but noted no prior history of discipline. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$470.50. Respondent filed a late Petition for Review, but was granted a review hearing by the Board.


JOHN F. X. DWAIHY, Executive Director
& General Counsel


DAVID BAKER LEWIS, Secretary of the
Attorney Discipline Board

JAN 4 1982