

Attorney Discipline Board



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This is to inform the Courts of the State of Michigan of the following final Order of Discipline:

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION 56207-A

FREDERICK E. ALTHAUS (P23980), 106 W. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331, by Attorney Discipline Board Ninth Congressional District Hearing Panel #2, for a period of three (3) years, effective January 28, 1980. Neither party petitioned for review.

Respondent was charged with failure to commence suit for damages resulting from governmental condemnation of a client's property and failure to respond to said client's request for information regarding the status of said cause of action, constituting a violation of Canon 1, DR 1-102 (A) (1) (4-6), Canon 6, DR 6-101 (A) (3) and Canon 7, DR 7-101 (A) (1-3). Respondent was also charged with a failure to answer the Grievance Administrator's Request for Investigation required by GCR 962.2 which constitutes separate grounds for discipline pursuant to GCR 953 (7).

The Hearing Panel determined that Respondent had received a retainer for services to be rendered and the cost of commencing litigation and that Respondent failed to file a complaint as promised, refusing to respond to numerous inquiries of the client. The Panel found no violation of DR 1-102 (A) (1), but determined that Respondent had violated: Canon 1, DR 1-102 (4-6) by engaging in conduct involving dishonesty or misrepresentation, prejudicial to the administration of justice, and adversely reflecting upon his fitness to practice law, and Canon 6, DR 6-101 (A) (3), by neglect of a legal matter, and Canon 7, DR 7-101 (A) (1-3), by failing to seek the lawful objectives of his client, failure to carry out a contract of employment, and for prejudice and damage to the client in the course of the professional relationship.

David Baker Lewis

David Baker Lewis, Secretary
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD