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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION (By Consent)

Case No. 16-138-GA

Notice Issued: September 5, 2017

Mark S. Demorest, P 35912, Royal Oak, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #63.

Suspension - 180 Days, Effective August 31, 2017.

The respondent and the Grievance Administrator filed a stipulation for a consent order of discipline, in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5), which was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and accepted by the hearing panel. Based upon respondent's admissions and pleas of no contest in his answer to the formal complaint and in the stipulation of the parties, the panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct in relation to the handling of client funds deposited into his firm's IOLTA account.

Specifically, the panel found that respondent failed to promptly pay or deliver funds that a client or a third person was entitled to receive, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); and engaged in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MRPC 8.4(c) and MCR 9.104(1). Respondent was also found to have violated MRPC 8.4(a) and MCR 9.104(2)-(4).

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law be suspended for a period of 180 days. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$879.73.

Mark A. Armitage Executive Director