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AMENDED NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION WITH CONDITION¹

Case No. 16-50-GA

Notice Issued: January 3, 2017

Scott P. Zochowski, P 54749, Troy, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #52.

Suspension - Two Years, Effective December 28, 2016²

Respondent was in default for his failure to file an answer to the formal complaint and did not attend the public hearing. Based on respondent's default, the hearing panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct in his representation of seven separate clients in various types of legal matters.

The panel found that respondent failed to answer seven requests for investigation in conformity with MCR 9.113(A) and (B)(2), in violation of MCR 9.104(7); failed to seek the lawful objectives of clients through reasonably available means, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); neglected legal matters, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their matters and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); failed to deposit legal fees and expenses that were paid in advance into a client trust account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(g); and upon termination of representation, failed to refund unearned fees, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(3); and MRPC 8.4(b) and (c).

The panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law be suspended for two years. The panel also ordered that respondent be required to pay restitution in the total amount of \$6,850.00 to six of the complainants and seek treatment from a qualified therapist, with the frequency of counseling at the discretion of the therapist. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$1,879.35.

Mark A. Armitage Executive Director

¹ Respondent's P-Number, previously listed as P 54759, has been corrected.

² Respondent has been continuously suspended from the practice of law in Michigan since June 2, 2016. Please see Notice of Suspension With Condition, issued June 2, 2016 in Case No. 15-75-GA.