

MEMBERS
LOUANN VAN DER WIELE
CHAIRPERSON
REV. MICHAEL MURRAY
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
DULCE M. FULLER
SECRETARY
JAMES A. FINK
JOHN W. INHULSEN
JONATHAN E. LAUDERBACH
BARBARA WILLIAMS FORNEY
KAREN D. O'DONOGHUE
MICHAEL B. RIZIK, JR.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD



211 WEST FORT STREET, SUITE 1410
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3236
PHONE: 313-963-5553 | FAX: 313-963-5571

MARK A. ARMITAGE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
—
WENDY A. NEELEY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
—
KAREN M. DALEY
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL
—
SHERRY L. MIFSUD
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
—
ALLYSON M. PLOURDE
CASE MANAGER
—
OWEN R. MONTGOMERY
CASE MANAGER
—
JULIE M. LOISELLE
RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY
—
www.adbmich.org

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION WITH CONDITION

Case No. 16-50-GA

Notice Issued: December 29, 2016

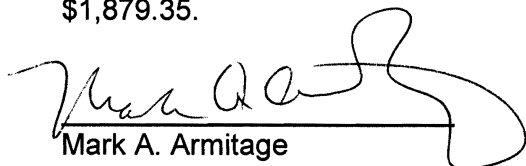
Scott P. Zochowski, P 54759, Troy, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #52.

Suspension - Two Years, Effective December 28, 2016¹

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

¹ 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.