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NOTICE OF REPRIMAND
(By Consent)

Case No. 16-105-GA

Notice Issued: November 17, 2016

Rockwood W. Bullard, III, P 26231, Clarkston, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #56.

Reprimand, Effective November 17, 2016

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. The stipulation contained respondent's admissions to the allegations that he committed professional misconduct as the result of his improper use of an IOLTA account from January 2015 through August 2015, and that, in April and May 2015, respondent improperly provided financial assistance to a client in connection with pending or contemplated litigation.

Based upon respondent's admissions and the stipulation of the parties, the panel found that respondent provided financial assistance to a client in connection with pending or contemplated litigation, in violation of MRPC 1.8(e); held funds other than client or third person funds in an IOLTA account, in violation of MRPC 1.15(a)(3); and deposited his own funds into an IOLTA account in excess of the amount reasonably necessary to pay financial institution service charges or fees or to obtain a waiver of service charges or fees, in violation of MRPC 1.15(f). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(2)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a). In entering their finding of misconduct, the panel acknowledged paragraph 3(d) of the Stipulation for Consent Order of Discipline, which stated that "there is no evidence that Respondent improperly used, converted, misappropriated, or commingled client funds."

In accordance with the stipulation of the parties, the panel ordered that respondent be reprimanded. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$884.68.

Mark A. Armitage