

► Contact the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel at (512) 453-5535, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals at (512) 475-1578 or txboda.org, or the State Commission on Judicial Conduct at (512) 463-5533.

DISBARMENTS

On Feb. 9, 2015, **Daniel Charles Little** [#24047534], 57, of Hurst, was disbarred. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in representing complainant in two traffic citations, Little neglected the legal matters entrusted to him by failing to inform complainant of the trial date and failing to attend the trial. Little failed to keep complainant reasonably informed about the status of his legal matters and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from complainant. Upon termination of representation in complainant's traffic citations, Little failed to refund advance payments of fees that had not been earned. Little failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief

Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for his failure to do so.

Little violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,327.26 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$300 in restitution.

Little filed an appeal on March 10, 2015.

On Feb. 9, 2015, **Daniel Charles Little** [#24047534], 57, of Hurst, was disbarred. The District 7 Grievance Committee found that in representing complainant in her legal matter

with the city of Decatur, Little neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to send to the city of Decatur a demand letter and failing to perform any other legal services on complainant's behalf. Upon termination of representation, Little failed to refund advance payments of fees that had not been earned. Little failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and did not in good faith timely assert a privilege or other legal ground for his failure to do so.

Little violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$2,341.26 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$750 in restitution.

Little filed an appeal on March 10, 2015.

RESIGNATIONS

On March 11, 2015, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **Hensel Murchison** [#14681000], 77, of Cypress. At the time of his resignation, there were pending disciplinary actions alleging that Murchison neglected the legal matters entrusted to him by his clients; failed to hold a client's or third person's funds in a trust account separate from his own property; failed to promptly deliver those funds to the client or third person; failed to keep property in which both he and another person claimed interest separate until there was an accounting and severance of their interest; engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation; and failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

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Murchison violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.14(c), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8). As a condition for his reinstatement, Murchison was ordered to pay \$10,500 in restitution, \$1,845 in attorneys' fees, and \$1,059 in direct expenses.

SUSPENSIONS

On March 11, 2015, **Blair Bernard Brininger III** [#03002550], 58, of Houston, accepted an 18-month partially probated suspension effective April 1, 2015, with the first three months actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Brininger neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their cases, and failed to timely return client files, papers, and unearned fees upon termination.

Brininger violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 1.15(d). He agreed to

pay \$3,996.46 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On Feb. 5, 2015, **Mark L. Honsaker** [#00795425], 48, of Houston, received a six-month fully probated suspension effective Feb. 1, 2015. The 55th Civil Court of Harris County found that Honsaker violated Rule 8.04(a)(3) [prohibiting a lawyer from engaging in conduct involving misrepresentation].

Honsaker was ordered to pay \$1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On Feb. 23, 2015, **Kelly Michael Kowis** [#90001781], 46, of the Woodlands, received a three-year partially probated suspension effective April 1, 2015, with the first year actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that in representing his clients, Kowis neglected the legal matter

entrusted to him and failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matters. He failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from his clients and failed to explain the status of their legal matters to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the clients to make informed decisions regarding representation. Upon termination of the representation, Kowis failed to refund advance payments of fees that he had not earned and failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel a response or other information as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Kowis violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay \$3,580 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses and \$5,455 in restitution.

Kowis did not file an appeal.

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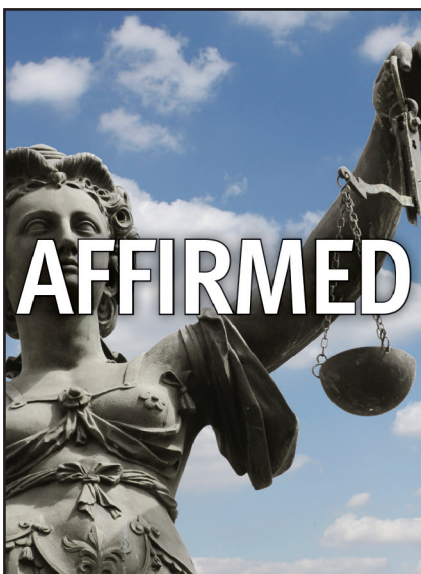
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On March 17, 2015, **William A. Walsh** [#00794816], 69, of Fort Worth, received an 18-month fully probated suspension effective March 1, 2015. An evidentiary panel of the District 14 Grievance Committee found that Walsh engaged in the practice of law when his right to practice had been administratively suspended for non-compliance with Texas Supreme Court rules concerning repayment of his student loans.

Walsh violated Rule 8.04(a)(11). He was ordered to pay \$5,192.70 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

As of April 16, 2015, Walsh had not filed an appeal.

PRIVATE REPRIMANDS

Listed below is a breakdown of Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct violations for 13 attorneys, with the number in parentheses indicating the frequency of

violation. Please note that an attorney may be reprimanded for more than one rule violation.

1.01(b)(1)—for neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer (4).

1.01(b)(2)—for failing to carry out completely the obligations owed to a client (1).

1.02(a)—for failing to abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives and general methods of representation (1).

1.03(a)—for failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information (5).

1.03(b)—for failing to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding representation (2).

1.09(a)(2)—for, without prior consent, having formerly represented a client in a matter adverse to the former client if the representation in reasonable probability will involve a violation of Rule 1.05(1).

1.14(a)—for failing to hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients or third persons in a lawyer's possession separate from the lawyer's own property (1).

1.15(d)—for failing, upon termination of representation, to reasonably protect a client's interests, give notice to the client to seek other counsel, or surrender papers and property that belong to the client (3).

4.04(a)—for using means in representing a client that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person, or using methods of obtaining evidence that violate the legal right of such a person (1).

8.04(a)(3)—for engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation (1).

8.04(a)(8)—for failing to timely furnish to a district grievance committee a response or other information as required unless he or she timely asserts a privilege or other legal ground for failure to do so (2). **TBJ**

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