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DISBARMENTS

On December 20, 2016, **Ingrid K. Stamps** [#19025050], 56, of Fort Worth, received a default judgment of disbarment. An evidentiary panel of the District 7 Grievance Committee found that Stamps violated a disciplinary judgment of suspension by practicing law while she was actively suspended.

Stamps violated Rule 8.04(a)(7). She was ordered to pay \$637.50 in attorneys' fees and \$374.50 in direct expenses.

RESIGNATIONS

On January 17, 2017, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation in lieu of discipline of **Christopher Michael Dupuy** [#24003931], 45, of Kemah. At the time of Dupuy's resignation, there were five grievances pending against him. In representing clients, he neglected the legal matters entrusted to him, failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their legal matters and to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information, failed to hold funds belonging in

whole or in part to a client that were in his possession in connection with a representation separate from his own property, and withdrew from representing a client that caused a material adverse effect on the interests of the client. Upon termination of representation, Dupuy failed to take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect his client's interests, such as giving the client reasonable notice and allowing time for employment of other counsel. In the course of litigation, he took a position that unreasonably increased the costs and other burdens of the case and that unreasonably delayed resolution of the matter, knowingly made a false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal, and unlawfully obstructed another party's access to evidence; and in anticipation of a dispute, he unlawfully altered, destroyed, or concealed a document or other material that a competent lawyer would believe has potential or actual evidentiary value. Dupuy knowingly disobeyed, or advised clients to disobey, an obligation under the

standing rules of or a ruling by a tribunal; committed a serious crime or committed any other criminal act that reflected adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer in other respects; and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

Dupuy violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.14(a), 1.15(b)(1), 1.15(d), 3.02, 3.03(a)(1), 3.04(a), 3.04(d), 8.04(a)(2), and 8.04(a)(3).

On February 14, 2017, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation in lieu of discipline of **Robert M. Jones** [#10951000], 72, of Duncanville. At the time of Jones' resignation, there were three pending matters against him alleging neglecting a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer; failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly complying with reasonable requests for information; upon termination of representation, taking steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled, and refunding any advance payments of fees that have not been earned; and engaging in the practice of law when the lawyer is on inactive status or when the lawyer's right to practice has been suspended or terminated.

Jones violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(11).

On February 14, 2017, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation in lieu of discipline of **Ronald B. Layer** [#12065700], 67, of San Antonio. At the time of his resignation, Layer had one grievance pending alleging he failed to keep a client's funds in a trust account separate from his own property.

Layer violated Rule 1.14(a).

SUSPENSIONS

On February 13, 2017, **Helene Thaisa W. Bergman** [#02196500], 62, of Houston, accepted a one-year fully probated suspension effective February 20, 2017. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Bergman neglected her client's legal matter by failing to take any of the actions she was retained to perform.

Bergman violated Rule 1.01(b)(1). She was ordered to pay \$3,800 in restitution and \$1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

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On January 4, 2017, **Quinon Alexis-Rahshee Brooker** [#24053771], 40, of Houston, received a three-year partially probated suspension effective February 1, 2017, with the month of June 2017 actively suspended and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that in representing a client, Brooker neglected the legal matter entrusted to him and failed to hold funds belonging in whole or in part to his client that were in his possession in connection with the representation in a trust account.

Brooker violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.14(a). He was ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution and \$1,400 in attorneys' fees.

On February 21, 2017, **Lorenzo Brown** [#03151500], 65, of DeSoto, received a one-year partially probated suspension effective April 1, 2017, with the first three months actively suspended and the remainder probated. The 14th Judicial District Court of Dallas County found that Brown committed professional misconduct by violating Rule 1.14(a) [failing to hold funds belonging in whole or in part to a client that were in the lawyer's possession in connection with the representation separate from the lawyer's own property].

Brown was ordered to pay \$1,115 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On February 24, 2017, **Isaiah Roby Jackson** [#24071021], 41, of Midland, accepted a two-year fully probated suspension effective March 1, 2017. The District 16 Grievance Committee found that Jackson used professional association funds for personal use without consent.

Jackson violated Rules 8.04(a)(1) and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$2,820.34 in restitution and \$1,200 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On February 8, 2017, **Clyde Miller** [#14061950], 61, of Houston, received an 18-month partially probated suspension effective April 1, 2017. The 151st District Court of Harris County found that Miller violated Rule 5.03(b)(1) [encouraged conduct by a non-lawyer that would be a violation of the rules if engaged in by a lawyer], 7.03(b) [paid, gave, or offered to pay a person not licensed to practice law for soliciting prospective clients], 7.06(a) [accepted or continued employment in a matter when that employment was procured by conduct prohibited by the Rules], 8.04(a)(2) [committed a criminal act that

reflected adversely on his honesty], 8.04(a)(3) [engaged in conduct involving dishonesty], and 8.04(a)(7) [violated a disciplinary judgment].

On February 15, 2017, **Andres Aaron Ramos** [#24005926], 45, of San Antonio, received a three-year partially probated suspension effective February 1, 2017, with the first six months actively served and the remainder probated. An evidentiary panel of the District 12 Grievance Committee found that Ramos neglected a client's matter, failed to communicate with clients, and failed to refund unearned fees.

Ramos violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay \$3,500 in restitution and \$1,100 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On February 10, 2017, **Jerry W. Scarbrough** [#17717500], 68, of Killeen, accepted an agreed judgment of an 18-month active suspension that began on May 1, 2016, and ended October 4, 2016. An agreed judgment found that Scarbrough responded to various discovery requests on behalf of his client. In two of

the responses, Scarbrough failed to disclose or provide copies of recorded conversations of parties to the lawsuit. At a hearing before the court, Scarbrough and his client, who both testified, continued to deny the existence of the recordings. Scarbrough also contacted a deceased party's niece and left her with the impression that he represented her deceased uncle. At no time did Scarbrough represent the deceased uncle.

Scarbrough violated Rules 3.03(a)(1), 8.04(a)(1), and 8.04(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On January 31, 2017, **Bryan Lee Simmons** [#24033190], 46, of Atlanta, agreed to a nine-month fully probated suspension effective February 1, 2017. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that in June 2013, the complainant hired Simmons to defend the complainant's client in a civil suit. Simmons neglected the legal matter, failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of the legal matter, and failed to promptly comply

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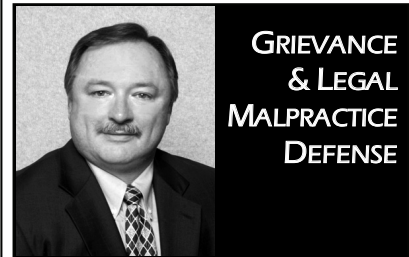
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with reasonable requests for information from the client.

Simmons violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$1,950 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On February 10, 2017, **Paul Andrew Smith** [#24010408], 47, of Westlake Hills, accepted a one-year fully probated suspension effective November 1, 2017. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that he was hired to sue the complainant's employer for injuries the complainant sustained at work on June 5, 2013. Smith filed the original petition for personal injuries on June 5, 2015, but did not request citation until September 17, 2015. The defendant filed a summary judgment motion seeking to dismiss the suit on the grounds that Smith had not used due diligence in obtaining service. Smith did not file a response to the summary judgment motion but attended the hearing on the motion. On January 7, 2016, the court granted the defendant's summary judgment motion. Smith did not notify the complainant when the motion was filed and did not notify her

that the case had been dismissed.

Smith violated Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a). He was ordered to pay \$500 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS

On February 6, 2017, **Pattie Jo Nolan** [#24046615], 47, of Conroe, received an agreed judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that Nolan failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from her clients and failed to respond to the grievance.

Nolan violated Rules 1.03(a) and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay \$600 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On February 16, 2017, **Kurtis Scott Rudkin** [#00792103], 54, of Boerne, accepted a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 15 Grievance Committee found that Rudkin represented a client in a matter that was adverse to a former client without consent.

Rudkin violated Rule 1.09(a)(3). He was ordered to pay \$2,400 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses. **TBJ**

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