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NOTICE OF DISBARMENT AND RESTITUTION

Case No. 17-30-GA

Notice Issued: January 11, 2018

Alexander E. Kuhne, P 41382, Birmingham, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #77.

Disbarred, Effective January 9, 2018.

Based on respondent's default, the hearing panel found that respondent committed professional misconduct by failing to safeguard funds entrusted to him by a client, failing to timely provide proper and complete estate planning documents to another client, and by failing to respond to two requests for investigation and failing to respond to petitioner's subpoena and demand for production of documents.

Specifically, the panel found that respondent failed to provide competent representation to his client with regard to her legal matters, in violation of MRPC 1.1; neglected a legal matter entrusted to him, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client through reasonably available means permitted by law, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness, in violation of MRPC 1.3; failed to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of the matter and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, in violation of MRPC 1.4(a); failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit a client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4(b); failed to promptly pay or deliver funds that the client is entitled to receive an failed to promptly provide a full accounting of such funds, in violation of MRPC 1.15(b)(3); failed to hold client funds in connection the representation in an IOLTA or non-IOLTA trust account, and failed to appropriately safeguard such funds, in violation of MRPC 1.15(d); upon termination, failed to surrender papers to which the client is entitled, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, in violation of MRPC 8.1(a)(2); and failed to answer two requests for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.113(A) and MCR 9.104(7). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(2) and (3), and MRPC 8.4(b).

The panel ordered that respondent be disbarred from the practice of law in Michigan and that he pay restitution to the two complainants in the total amount of \$127,473.00. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,517.48.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark A. Armitage", written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Armitage
Executive Director