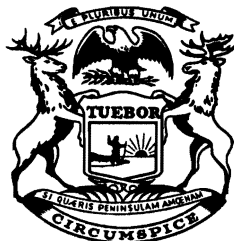


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211 WEST FORT STREET, SUITE 1410
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3236
PHONE: 313-963-5553 | FAX: 313-963-5571

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NOTICE OF SUSPENSION AND RESTITUTION

Case No. 17-17-GA


Notice Issued: January 22, 2018

Earl E. Erland, P 41917, Greenville, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Kent County Hearing Panel #1.

Suspension - 45 Days, effective January 19, 2018.

The hearing panel found that respondent committed acts of professional misconduct while representing his client in a commercial litigation appeal and by failing to answer a request for investigation. The panel specifically found that respondent neglected a legal matter entrusted to him, in violation of MRPC 1.1(c); failed to seek the lawful objectives of a client, by filing a motion for reconsideration without client consent, in violation of MRPC 1.2(a); failed to keep his client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and comply promptly with reasonable requests for information, and/or failed to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit his client to make informed decisions regarding the representation, in violation of MRPC 1.4; failed to return an unearned fee, in violation of MRPC 1.16(d); and failed to answer a request for investigation, in violation of MCR 9.104(7), MCR 9.113(A), and (B)(2), and MRPC 8.1(a)(2). Respondent was also found to have violated MCR 9.104(1)-(4) and MRPC 8.4(a) and (c).

The hearing panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 45 days and that respondent pay restitution totaling \$2,000. Respondent filed a petition for review and request for stay and the discipline ordered by the hearing panel was automatically stayed pursuant to MCR 9.115(K). Respondent failed to file a brief in support of his petition for review and the Board issued an order dismissing his petition on October 24, 2017. Respondent filed a motion for reconsideration which was denied by the Board December 21, 2017. Total costs were assessed in the amount of \$2,165.09.


Mark A. Armitage
Executive Director