

STATE OF MICHIGAN
Attorney Discipline Board

FILED
ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD
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GRIEVANCE ADMINISTRATOR,
Attorney Grievance Commission,

Petitioner/Appellee,

v

Case No. 18-37-GA

ERNEST FRIEDMAN, P 26642,

Respondent/Appellant.
_____ /

ORDER AFFIRMING HEARING PANEL ORDER OF SUSPENSION

Issued by the Attorney Discipline Board
333 W. Fort St., Ste. 1700, Detroit, MI

On June 5, 2019, Tri-County Hearing Panel #57 of the Attorney Discipline Board entered an order in this matter, suspending respondent's license to practice law in Michigan for a period of 60 days. On June 14, 2019, 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).

The Attorney Discipline Board has conducted review proceedings in accordance with MCR 9.118, including review of the record before the hearing panel and consideration of the briefs and arguments presented to the Board at a review hearing conducted on August 21, 2019.

NOW THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth in the accompanying opinion,

IT IS ORDERED that the hearing panel Order of Suspension, issued June 5, 2019, is **AFFIRMED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan is **SUSPENDED FOR 60 DAYS, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 6, 2019**, and until the respondent's filing of an affidavit of compliance with the Supreme Court, the Attorney Discipline Board and the Attorney Grievance Commission in accordance with MCR 9.123(A).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from the effective date of this order and until reinstatement in accordance with the applicable provisions of MCR 9.123, respondent is forbidden from practicing law in any form; appearing as an attorney before any court, judge, justice, board, commission or other public authority; or holding himself out as an attorney by any means.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in accordance with MCR 9.119(A), respondent shall, within seven days after the effective date of this order, notify all of his active clients, in writing, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, of the following:

1. the nature and duration of the discipline imposed;

2. the effective date of such discipline;
3. respondent's inability to act as an attorney after the effective date of such discipline;
4. the location and identity of the custodian of the clients' files and records which will be made available to them or to substitute counsel;
5. that the clients may wish to seek legal advice and counsel elsewhere; provided that, if respondent was a member of a law firm, the firm may continue to represent each client with the client's express written consent;
6. the address to which all correspondence to respondent may be addressed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in accordance with MCR 9.119(B), respondent must, on or before the effective date of this order, in every matter in which respondent is representing a client in litigation, file with the tribunal and all parties a notice of respondent's disqualification from the practice of law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, respondent shall, within 14 days after the effective date of this order, file with the Grievance Administrator and the Attorney Discipline Board an affidavit of compliance as required by MCR 9.119(C).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent's conduct after the entry of this order but prior to its effective date, shall be subject to the restrictions set forth in MCR 9.119(D); and respondent's compensation for legal services shall be subject to the restrictions described in MCR 9.119(F).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that respondent shall, on or before November 6, 2019, pay costs in the amount of \$4,353.11 consisting of costs assessed by the hearing panel in the amount of \$4,187.61 and court reporting costs incurred by the Attorney Discipline Board in the amount of \$165.50 for the review proceedings conducted on August 21, 2019. Check or money order shall be made payable to the **Attorney Discipline System** and submitted to the Attorney Discipline Board, 333 West Fort St., Ste. 1700, Detroit, MI 48226, for proper crediting. (See attached instruction sheet).

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD



By:

Jonathan E. Lauderbach, Chairperson

DATED: October 8, 2019

Board members Jonathan E. Lauderbach, Michael B. Rizik, Jr., Barbara Williams Forney, James A. Fink, Karen O'Donoghue, and Anna Frushour, concur in this decision.

Board members John W. Inhulsen and Linda Hotchkiss, MD were absent and did not participate.