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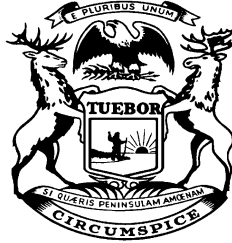
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**NOTICE OF SUSPENSION**

Case No. 24-44-GA

**Notice Issued: January 2, 2025**

Frederick D. Johnson, Jr., P 36283, Muskegon, Michigan

Suspension - 75 Days, Effective December 26, 2024

Based on the evidence presented at hearings held in this matter in accordance with MCR 9.115, Kent County Hearing Panel #4 found that respondent committed professional misconduct in his role as the director of the Muskegon Public Defender's Office, and that respondent failed to properly supervise both his lawyer and nonlawyer employees by failing to have proper conflicts of interest policies in place and by failing to ensure that proper measures were in place to screen for and avoid conflicts of interest, as set forth in a formal complaint filed by the Grievance Administrator.

Specifically, the hearing panel found respondent knowingly revealed a confidence or secret of a client; used a confidence or secret of a client to the disadvantage of the client; or used a confidence, or secret of a client for the advantage of himself or of a third person without the client's consent obtained after full disclosure, in violation of MRPC 1.6(b); having formerly represented a client in a matter, respondent thereafter represented a person in the same or a substantially related matter in which that person's interests were materially adverse to the interests of the former client where the former client did not consent after consultation, in violation of MRPC 1.9(a); having formerly represented a client in a matter, respondent thereafter, (1) used or attempted to use information relating to the representation to the disadvantage of the former client except as Rule 1.6 or Rule 3.3 would permit or require with respect to a client, or when the information has become generally known; and/or (2) revealed information relating to the representation except as Rule 1.6 or Rule 3.3 would permit, in violation of MRPC 1.9(c); represented a client or, after representation had commenced, failed to withdraw from the representation of a client where the representation would result in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law, in violation of MRPC 1.16(a); as a partner of a law firm, respondent failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the firm had in effect measures giving reasonable assurance that all lawyers in the firm conform to the Rules of Professional Conduct, in violation of MRPC 5.1(a); having direct supervisory authority over another lawyer, respondent failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the other lawyer conformed to the Rules of Professional Conduct, in violation of MRPC 5.1(b); as a partner of a law firm, respondent failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the firm had in effect measures giving reasonable assurance that the conduct of nonlawyers in the firm was compatible with the professional obligations of the lawyer, in violation of MRPC 5.3(a); having direct supervisory

authority over a nonlawyer, respondent failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the person's conduct was compatible with the professional obligations of the lawyer, in violation of MRPC 5.3(b); engaged in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of MRPC 8.4(c) and MCR 9.104(1); engaged in conduct that exposes the legal profession or the courts to obloquy, contempt, censure, or reproach, in violation of MCR 9.104(2); engaged in conduct that is contrary to justice, ethics, honesty, or good morals, in violation of MCR 9.104(3); and, engaged in conduct that violates the standards or rules of professional conduct adopted by the Supreme Court, in violation of MCR 9.104(4).

The Panel ordered that respondent's license to practice law in Michigan be suspended for 75 days. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$3,212.62.