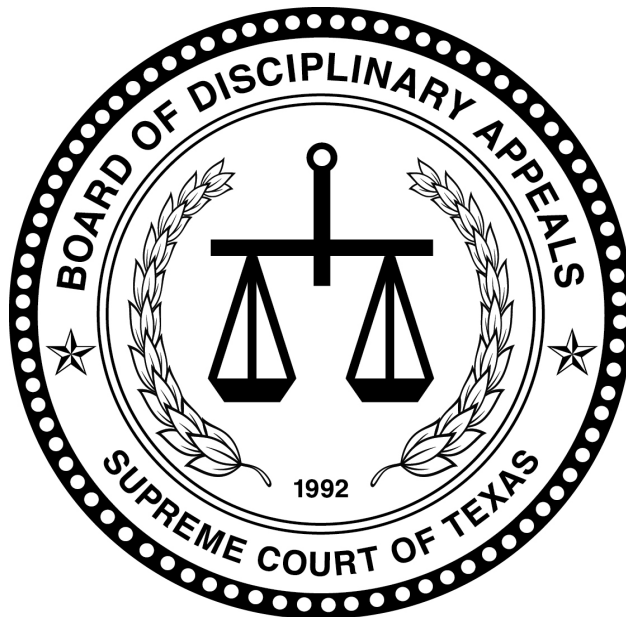


THE BOARD *of* DISCIPLINARY APPEALS
APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT *of* TEXAS



DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
FEBRUARY 2020 -
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DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

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As noted in the June 2023 issue of the Texas Bar Journal, included herein are disciplinary actions by the Board of Disciplinary Appeal not included in previous issues.

On February 2, 2023, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Interlocutory Order of Suspension in the compulsory discipline case against Austin attorney **DONALD EDWARD LITTLE** [#24076191]. On August 5, 2021, a Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Cause No. CR21-002, styled *The State of Texas v. Donald Edward Little*, in the 51st District Court, Irion County, wherein Little was found guilty of Misapplication of Fiduciary Property greater than \$30,000 but less than \$150,000. Little was sentenced to five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Little has appealed his criminal conviction. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment if the criminal conviction becomes final. BODA Case No. 66182.

On January 18, 2023, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Shreveport, LA attorney **BRYCE J. DENNY** [#05755450]. On October 12, 2022, an Order Per Curiam was issued by the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the matter styled *In Re: Bryce Jefferson Denny*, Attorney Disciplinary Proceeding, No. 2022-B-1315, suspending Denny from the practice of law in

Louisiana for six months, with the suspension deferred in its entirety, subject to a one-year period of probation. Denny agreed he violated Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4(a)(2), (3), and (4) (communication), 3.2 (expediting litigation), and 8.4(a) (violation of or attempt to violate rules). He is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for one year with the suspension fully probated, beginning January 18, 2023, and extending through January 17, 2024. BODA Case No. 67335.

On January 11, 2023, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Tampa, FL attorney **DAVID JOHN PETTINATO** [#24080035]. On November 17, 2022, an Order was issued by the Supreme Court of Florida in a matter styled *The Florida Bar, Complainant v. David John Pettinato, Respondent*, Supreme Court Case No. SC22-1515, Lower Tribunal No(s): 2018-10,276 (13D); 2019-10,196 (13D), suspending Pettinato from the practice of law in Florida for ten days. Pettinato agreed he violated Rules Regulating The Florida Bar 4-4.1(b) (truthfulness in statements to others), 4-3.3(a)(1) (candor toward the tribunal), 4-3.4(c) (fairness to opposing party and counsel), and 4-8.4(d) (misconduct). He was suspended from the practice of law in Texas for ten days, beginning February 10, 2023, and extending through February 19, 2023. BODA Case No. 67468.

On January 6, 2023, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Private

Reprimand in a reciprocal discipline against a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Supreme Court of Florida had previously issued an Order finding that the Attorney violated Rule Regulating the Florida Bar 4-8.4(d) (misconduct) and imposing an admonishment for minor misconduct. BODA Case No. 67421.

On November 7, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Livingston attorney **MICHAEL L. DAVIS** [#05528760]. On February 1, 2002, a Judgment of Active Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Davis violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) (neglect), 1.03(a) and (b) (communication), 8.04(a)(3) (misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation), and 8.04(a)(8) (misconduct involving failure to provide a required response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee). Davis is actively suspended for three years, beginning February 15, 2022, and ending February 14, 2025. BODA Case No. 66372.

On November 7, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Amarillo attorney **ROY LEE REEVES** [#24027770]. On November 19, 2021, a Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee of

the State Bar of Texas, finding that Reeves violated Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct 8.04(a)(8) (failure to respond to grievance). Reeves received a three-year partially probated suspension, effective January 1, 2022, with the first six months actively suspended and the remainder probated. BODA Case No. 66337.

On November 2, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Public Reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against Baton Rouge, LA attorney **MICHAEL L. HEBERT** [#09364300]. On October 4, 2022, an Order Per Curiam was issued by the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the matter styled *In Re: Michael L. Hebert*, Attorney Disciplinary Proceeding, accepting the Joint Petition for Consent Discipline for violation of Louisiana Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15(d) (safekeeping property) and imposing a public reprimand. BODA Case No. 67227.

On November 2, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Los Angeles, CA attorney **NATHAN V. HOFFMAN** [#09785490]. On May 13, 2022, an Order was entered by the Supreme Court of California in the matter styled *In re Nathan V. Hoffman on Discipline*, Case Nos. S261244 (State Bar Court Nos. 12-C-16181; 18-0-15019), suspending Hoffman from the practice of law in California for four years, with three years active suspension and the remainder probated contingent upon proof of rehabilitation and

fitness. The disciplinary proceeding arose out of Hoffman's conviction of manufacturing at least 50 marijuana plants in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1). Hoffman is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for four years, with three years active suspension beginning November 2, 2022, and extending through November 1, 2025, followed by a one-year probated suspension extending through November 1, 2026. BODA Case No. 67182.

On October 31, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against San Diego, CA attorney **ERIK JAMES BURRIS** [#24061360]. On December 16, 2015, a General Court-Martial Order Number 10 was entered by the Department of the Army, Headquarters, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, wherein Burris was found guilty of Assault, Rape, Sexual Assault, Sodomy, and Other Sexual Misconduct under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and was sentenced to be dismissed from the service, to be confined for 20 years, and to forfeit all pay and allowances. The judgment follows an Interlocutory Order of Suspension entered by the Board on January 26, 2018. BODA Case No. 59817.

On September 14, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Pensacola, FL attorney **DAVID LUTHER WOODWARD** [#21975640]. On April 14, 2022, an Order was entered by the Supreme Court of Florida in the matter styled *The Florida Bar*;

Complainant v. David Luther Woodward, Respondent, Supreme Court Case No. SC20-1842, The Florida Bar File No. 2020-00,23(1A), suspending Woodward from the practice of law in Florida for seventy-five days followed by a two-year probation. The court found Woodward in violation of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar 4-1.3 (diligence), 4-1.4 (communication), 4-3.2 (expediting litigation), 4-3.4(c) (knowingly disobeying an obligation under the rules of a tribunal), 4-8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice), and 4-8.4(g) (failure to respond to the Florida Bar). Woodward was actively suspended from the practice of law for seventy-five days, from September 14, 2022, to November 27, 2022, followed by a two-year probated suspension extending through November 27, 2024. BODA Case No. 67040.

On September 9, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Garland attorney **CHERYL D. BROWN-RAINES** [#003211050]. On August 23, 2021, a Judgment of Active Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Brown-Raines violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) (neglect), 1.03(a) and (b) (communication), 1.08(h) (conflict of interest in which lawyer acquires proprietary interest in litigation), 1.14(a) and (b) (safekeeping property), and 8.04(a)(8) (misconduct involving failure to provide a required response to the Chief Disciplinary

Counsel's office or a district grievance committee). Brown-Raines is suspended for twenty-four months, effective September 2, 2021, and ending September 1, 2023. On March 10, 2023, the Supreme Court dismissed Brown-Raines's appeal for want of prosecution [Case No. 22-0840]. BODA Case No. 66093.

On August 31, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the reciprocal discipline case against Washington, D.C. attorney **WESLEY LINDON CLARKE** [#24014254]. On September 12, 2019, an Order was issued by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in Cause No. 19-BG-779, styled *In re Wesley L. Clarke, Respondent, Bar Registration Number 474594*, in which Clarke consented to disbarment in Washington, D.C. Clarke admitted to violations of District of Columbia Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15(a) (safekeeping property), 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation), and 8.4(d) (conduct that seriously interferes with the administration of justice). BODA Case No. 65865.

On August 24, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Amarillo attorney **RONALD T. SPRIGGS** [#00792853]. On January 19, 2022, a Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Spriggs violated Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) (neglect).

Spriggs received a twelve-month partially probated suspension, effective February 1, 2022, with the first four months actively suspended and the remainder probated, ending January 31, 2023. BODA Case No. 66307.

On August 24, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Dallas attorney **KENNETH SHANE WALKER** [#24003130]. On July 21, 2021, a Judgment of Active Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Walker violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.04(d) (contingent fees), 1.14(a) and (b) (safekeeping property), 1.15(d) (protection of client's interests upon termination), and 8.04(a)(3) (misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation). Walker received a ten-year active suspension, beginning June 24, 2021, and ending June 23, 2031. BODA Case No. 65803.

On August 5, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment Denying Reciprocal Discipline against a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana had previously issued an Order/Per Curiam finding that the Attorney violated Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct 8.4(a) (violation of or attempt to violate rules) and 8.4(b) (commission of criminal act). That Court suspended the Attorney from the practice of law in Louisiana for one year and one day, fully deferred subject to the Attorney's

successful completion of a five-year period of probation to coincide with the Attorney's participation in a program with the Louisiana Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program. The Board determined that the Attorney established one or more defense in Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 9.04 and reciprocal discipline was not warranted. BODA Case No. 66336.

On August 5, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Interlocutory Order of Suspension in the compulsory discipline case against Liberty Lake, WA attorney **JOHN O'NEILL GREEN** [#00785927]. On June 28, 2021, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Cause No. 3:18-cr-00356-S, styled *United States of America v. John O. Green*, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, wherein Green was found guilty of Conspiracy to Defraud the United States. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Green was ordered to be committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons for a term of six months and, upon release, to be on supervised release for a term of three years. Green has appealed his criminal conviction. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment if the criminal appeal is final. BODA Case No. 65862.

On August 5, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against Texas City attorney **PAUL HOUSTON LAVALLE** [#11998625]. On February 28,

2020, a Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Cause No. 19CR0918, styled *The State of Texas v. Paul Houston LaValle*, in the 56th Judicial District Court of Galveston County, wherein LaValle was convicted of Tampering with or Fabricating Physical Evidence and was sentenced to five years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The sentence of confinement was suspended and LaValle was placed on community supervision for five years. The judgment follows an Interlocutory Order of Suspension entered by the Board on May 17, 2021. LaValle's appeal was dismissed for want of prosecution by the Supreme Court of Texas on December 3, 2021 [Case No. 21-0457]. BODA Case No. 64480.

On May 13, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Suspension in the compulsory discipline case against Georgetown attorney **ROBERT RAY SMITH** [#18678070]. On November 14, 2019, an Order of Deferred Adjudication was entered in Cause Number D-1-DC-18-904235, styled *The State of Texas v. Robert Smith*, in the 403rd Judicial District Court of Travis County, wherein Smith was placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for three years for the offense of third-degree felony forgery. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Smith was actively suspended from the practice of law beginning May 13, 2022, extending through November 11, 2022. In an agreed judgment in a separate disciplinary proceeding, Smith was suspended from the practice of law for a

period of five years, beginning October 11, 2019, and ending October 10, 2024; that suspension remains in effect and Smith remains subject to all terms and conditions of that agreed judgment. BODA Case No. 66183.

On May 6, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Interlocutory Order of Suspension in the compulsory discipline case against Manor attorney **JAMES MORRIS BALAGIA** [#00783589]. On May 4, 2021, Balagia was convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, Obstruction of Justice and Aiding and Abetting, Conspiracy, Endeavor, and Attempt to Violate the Kingpin Act, Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud, and Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice in Cause No. 4:16-CR-00176-ALM-KPJ(3), styled *United States of America v. James Morris Balagia*, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Sherman Division. These offenses constitute Intentional Crimes as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Balagia was sentenced to prison for a total of 188 months, followed by three years of supervised release. Balagia has appealed his criminal convictions. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment if the criminal conviction becomes final. BODA case no. 65867.

On May 6, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment Denying Reciprocal Discipline against a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana had previously issued an Order/Per Curiam finding that the Attorney violated Louisiana Rule of

Professional Conduct 8.4(b) (commission of criminal act). That Court suspended the Attorney from the practice of law in Louisiana for one year and one day, fully deferred subject to a two-year probationary period to coincide with the Attorney's participation in a program with the Louisiana Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program. The Board determined that the Attorney established one or more defenses in Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 9.04 and reciprocal discipline was not warranted. BODA Case No. 66334.

On May 6, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against Los Angeles, CA attorney **GEOFFREY C. MOUSSEAU** [#14606300]. On December 13, 2006, Mousseau was found guilty of Conspiracy to Commit Bankruptcy Fraud, Fraudulent Concealment of Property in Bankruptcy, False Statement in Bankruptcy, False Oath in Bankruptcy, and Withholding Records in Bankruptcy in Cause No. 2:04-CR-01697-GAF, styled *United States of America v. Geoffrey C. Mousseau*, in the United States District Court, Central District of California. These offenses constitute Intentional Crimes as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Mousseau was sentenced to prison for a total of twenty-one months, followed by three years of supervised release. BODA Case No. 65863.

On May 6, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment Revoking Probation and Actively Suspending Respondent

from the Practice of Law for El Paso attorney **DEREK ALFONSO QUINATA** [#24072292], following an Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension entered by an evidentiary panel for the State Bar of Texas District 17 Grievance Committee in four separate causes. Quinata is actively suspended under each of those judgments for three years, effective June 1, 2022, and extending through May 31, 2025. BODA Case No. 66219.

On May 5, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Alexandria, LA attorney **DARRELL KEITH HICKMAN** [#09572980]. On June 3, 2020, the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana issued a Judgment in a case styled *In Re: Darrell K. Hickman Attorney Disciplinary Proceeding*, Case No. 2020-B-0292, in which Hickman was suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year and one day, with all but three months deferred, followed by one year of probation. That court found Hickman violated Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligent and prompt representation), 1.4 (communication), 8.4(a) (violation of disciplinary rules), and 8.4(c) (dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation). Hickman is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for two years, with three months active suspension beginning May 5, 2022, and extending through August 4, 2022, followed by probated suspension extending through May 4, 2024. BODA Case No. 65860.

On April 14, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an

Agreed Judgment of Indefinite Disability Suspension against Pampa attorney **JEFFREY THOMPSON JONES** [#00794048]. The Board found that Jones is suffering from a disability. Jones is actively suspended, effective April 14, 2022, until reinstated by the Board or by a court. BODA Case No. 65409.

On March 23, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Public Reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against North Hollywood, CA attorney **ROBERT THEODORE HUME** [#10269600]. On December 1, 2020, an Informal Admonition was entered by the District of Columbia Office of Disciplinary Counsel in the matter styled *In re Robert T. Hume, Esquire*, D.C. Bar Membership No. 114132, Disciplinary Docket No. 2018-D346, in which Hume received an informal admonishment. That court found that Hume violated District of Columbia Rules of Professional Conduct 1.7(h)(2) and (4) (conflict of interest) and 1.8(d) (advancing financial assistance to client). BODA Case No. 65567.

On February 1, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment in the appeal filed by Dallas attorney **CARL DONALD HUGHES, JR.** [#10209000]. The Board affirmed the Default Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas on May 18, 2021. The evidentiary panel found that Hughes violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.03(a) and (b)

(communication), 1.15(d) (protection of client's interests upon termination), and 8.04(a)(8) (misconduct involving failure to provide a required response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee). Hughes was suspended for thirty-six months, with an eighteen-month active suspension beginning June 1, 2021, and ending May 30, 2022, followed by probated suspension, which shall end on May 30, 2024. On September 2, 2022, the Supreme Court of Texas affirmed the Judgment [Case No. 22-0116]. BODA Case No. 65757.

On February 1, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against Monument, CO attorney **DAVID ALLAN KRUEGER** [#24025940]. On May 13, 2021, a Judgment was entered in Cause No. 5:19-cr-00018-RWS-CMC(1), styled *United States of America v. David A. Krueger, Jr.*, in the United States District Court Eastern District of Texas, Texarkana Division, wherein Krueger was convicted of Wire Fraud. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Krueger was ordered to be committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons for a term of eighteen months, followed by three years of supervised release. On July 8, 2022, the Supreme Court dismissed Krueger's appeal for want of prosecution [Case No. 22-0137]. BODA Case No. 65866.

On February 1, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Default Judgment of

Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Willow Springs, IL attorney **JAMES ROBERT MASON** [#24094822]. On November 16, 2021, a Judgment was issued by the Supreme Court of Illinois in the matter styled *In re: James Robert Mason, M.R. 030993*, Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, No. 2021PR00045, in which Mason consented to a five-month suspension from the practice of law. Mason acknowledged violating Illinois Rule of Professional Conduct 8.1(a) (false statement of material fact in connection with disciplinary proceeding) and 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation). Mason was suspended from the practice of law in Texas for five months, beginning February 1, 2022, and ending July 31, 2022. BODA Case No. 66185.

On February 1, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment in an appeal filed by a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Judgment affirmed the Judgment of Private Reprimand issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas. The evidentiary panel found that the Attorney violated Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct 7.03(a) (solicitations and other prohibited communications). BODA Case No. 65646.

On November 2, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Omaha, NE attorney **JASON MARIO BRUNO** [#24073334]. On

October 15, 2020, a Final Judgment and Order of Suspension was entered by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in the case styled *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Jason Mario Bruno, Bar No. 023125, Respondent*, in Case No. PDJ 2019-9011, State Bar File No. 18-1064, in which Bruno was suspended from the practice of law in Arizona for six months, followed by two years of probation. Bruno was found to have violated Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct 3.3(a)(3) (candor toward the tribunal), 3.4(a) and (d) (fairness to opposing party and counsel), and 8.4(c) and (d) (misconduct). Bruno was actively suspended from the practice of law in Texas for six months, from November 1, 2021, through April 30, 2022, followed by two years of probated suspension, ending April 30, 2024. The Supreme Court of Texas affirmed the Judgment on September 2, 2022 [Case No. 21-0964]. BODA Case No. 65864.

On November 2, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment Denying Reciprocal Discipline against a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana had previously issued an Order/Per Curiam finding that the Attorney violated Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct 8.4(a) (violation of or attempt to violate rules) and 8.4(b) (commission of criminal act). That court suspended the Attorney from the practice of law in Louisiana for two years, with all but one year and one day deferred. The Board determined that the Attorney established one or more defenses in Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 9.04 and reciprocal discipline was not

warranted. BODA Case No. 65570.

On November 2, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment in the appeal filed by Austin attorney **MARIO A. MATA** [#13184400]. The Board affirmed the Judgment of Disbarment issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas on March 10, 2020. The evidentiary panel found that Mata violated Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct 1.14(b) (safekeeping property). On June 17, 2022, the Supreme Court of Texas affirmed the Judgment [Case No. 21-0990]. BODA Case No. 64651.

On August 25, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Dismissal Order, dismissing for want of prosecution the appeal filed by Fort Worth attorney **CURTIS LILLY** [#24030063]. On September 3, 2020, a Judgment of Public Reprimand was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Lilly violated Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15(a)(3) (terminating representation). BODA Case No. 64799.

On August 17, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory case against Austin attorney **LAWRENCE E. DANIEL** [#05359900]. On July 21, 2020, a Sentence, Judgment, and Commitment was entered in Cause No. 171500332 FS, styled *State of Utah Attorney General v. Lawrence Earl Daniel*, in the Fifth District Court – Cedar, Iron

County, State of Utah, wherein Daniel was found guilty and convicted of Securities Fraud, 2nd Degree Felony and Securities Fraud, 3rd Degree Felony. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Daniel was sentenced to prison for a term of one to fifteen years, with the sentence probated for three years. On April 1, 2022, the Supreme Court of Texas dismissed Daniel's appeal for want of prosecution [Case No. 21-0749]. BODA Case No. 65307.

On July 30, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against McAllen attorney **RODOLFO DELGADO** [#05645550]. On October 1, 2019, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Cause No. 4:18CR00115-001, styled *United States of America v. Rodolfo "Rudy" Delgado*, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, wherein Delgado was found guilty of Conspiracy, Federal Program Bribery, violations of the Travel Act, and Obstruction of Justice. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Delgado was sentenced to imprisonment for sixty months, followed by supervised release for two years. BODA Case No. 63669.

On July 30, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Suspension in the compulsory discipline case against Grand Prairie attorney **DEANNA MARIE JEFFERSON SMITH** [#24046152]. On September 30, 2020, a Judgment in a Criminal

Case was entered in Cause No. 3:18-CR-00068-K, styled *United States of America v. Deanna Jefferson Smith*, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, wherein Smith was convicted of Theft or Embezzlement in Connection with Health Care and sentenced to probation for two years. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Smith was actively suspended from the practice of law beginning July 31, 2021, and ending September 29, 2022. BODA Case No. 65569.

On July 28, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Private Reprimand in a reciprocal discipline case against a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board of the State Bar of Nevada previously imposed a Private Reprimand, finding that the Attorney violated Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence) and 1.15 (safekeeping). BODA Case No. 65694.

On May 25, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Public Reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against Columbia, LA attorney **DINA FAE DOMANGUE** [#24049570]. On February 6, 2020, a Public Reprimand was issued by the Louisiana Disciplinary Board in the matter styled *In Re: Dina Fae Domangue*, Number 17-DB-083. Domangue was found to have violated Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4(a) (communication), 1.16(d) (return

of client file/unearned fees), and 8.1(c) (failure to cooperate with investigation). BODA Case No. 65486.

On May 7, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment in the appeal filed by a **TEXAS ATTORNEY**. The Board reversed findings of professional misconduct by an evidentiary panel of the District 17 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, and modified the evidentiary panel's judgment to reflect that the only remaining finding of professional misconduct was based on violation of Rule 8.04(a)(8) (failure to respond to grievance), which was not challenged on appeal. The Board reversed the evidentiary panel's sanction and rendered judgment imposing a private reprimand against the Attorney. BODA Case No. 64263.

On May 6, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against Dallas attorney **W. THOMAS FINLEY** [#07025500]. On September 11, 2019, an Order of Deferred Adjudication was entered in Cause No. F-1800311-K, styled *The State of Texas v. Walter Thomas Finley*, in the Criminal District Court #4 of Dallas County, wherein Finley was convicted of Theft of Property over \$200,000. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Finley was placed on Community Supervision for a term of ten years. BODA Case No. 63670.

On May 6, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Suspension in the

compulsory discipline case against Austin attorney **RAMON GERARDO RIOS** [#24062966]. On September 2, 2017, an Order was entered in Cause Number D-1-DC-14-900131, styled *The State of Texas v. Ramon Gerardo Rios*, in the 450th Judicial District Court of Travis County, wherein Rios was convicted of Misapplication of Fiduciary Property, a second-degree felony. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Rios was placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for a period of ten years. Rios is suspended from the practice of law from May 6, 2021, through September 22, 2027. BODA Case No. 64719.

On April 27, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Public Reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against Henderson, NV attorney **LEILA LOUISE HALE** [#24088781]. On January 28, 2020, a Public Reprimand was issued by the State Bar of Nevada, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board, in the matter styled *State Bar of Nevada, Complainant, vs. Leila L. , Esq., NV Bar No. 7368, Respondent*, in Case Nos. OBC 17-0374 and OBC 17-0553. Hale was reprimanded for violations of Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct 1.5 (unreasonable fee) and 5.3 (responsibilities regarding non-lawyer assistants). BODA Case No. 65263.

On March 10, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Partially Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Leawood, KS attorney **DAVID**

ROBERT STEINMAN [#00791727]. On January 11, 2019, an Opinion and Decision Imposing Sanctions Under C.R.C.P. 251.19(b) was entered by the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, Original Preceding in Discipline Before the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, in the matter styled: *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: David R. Steinman, #39853*, Case No. 18PDJ038, suspending Steinman from the practice of law in Colorado for six months, with three months to be served and three months to be stayed upon completion of a one-year probation. That court found that Steinman violated Colorado Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4(c) (dishonesty). Steinman was actively suspended from the practice of law for three months, from March 10, 2021, to June 9, 2021, followed by a twelve-month probated suspension ending on June 9, 2022. BODA Case No. 65234.

On February 22, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Colorado Springs, CO attorney **ROBERT PHILLIP ODLE** [#00793172]. On November 7, 2018, an Order was issued by the Supreme Court of the State of Colorado in the matter styled *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: Robert Phillip Odle, #18091*, Case No. 18PDJ066, suspending Odle from the practice of law for six months. That court found Odle to have violated Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct 1.7(a) (conflict of interest), 8.4(a) (violation of or attempt to violate rules), 1.8(j) (sexual relations with

a client), and 1.15A(a) (safekeeping and segregation of funds). Odle was actively suspended for six months, from February 23, 2021, to August 22, 2021. BODA Case No. 65165.

On February 22, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Colorado Springs, CO attorney **ROBERT PHILLIP ODLE** [#00793172]. On August 19, 2019, an Order was issued by the Supreme Court of the State of Colorado in the matter styled *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: Robert Phillip Odle, #18091*, Case No. 18PDJ062, suspending Odle from the practice of law for six months, all to be stayed upon the successful completion of a three-year probation. That court found that Odle violated Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4(a)(4) and (b) (communication), and 1.15A(a) (negligent conversion). Odle is suspended from the practice of law for three years, fully probated, beginning August 23, 2021, and ending August 22, 2024. BODA Case No. 65166.

On February 5, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued a Judgment of Disbarment in the reciprocal discipline case against Edmond, OK attorney **ALEXANDER LOUIS BEDNAR** [#24044456]. On March 12, 2019, a Per Curiam Opinion and Order was issued by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma, titled *Proceeding for Bar Discipline, in the matter styled State of Oklahoma ex rel. Oklahoma Bar Association, Complainant v. Alexander Louis*

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

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Bednar, Respondent, SCBD #6618, disbaring Bednar. That court found that Bednar violated Oklahoma Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 3.1 (meritorious claims and contentions), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 3.3 (candor toward the tribunal), 3.4 (fairness to opposing party and counsel), 4.2 (communication with person represented by counsel), 4.4(a) (respect for rights of third persons), 8.1(b) (bar admission and disciplinary matters), 8.2(a) (judicial and legal officials), 8.4(c) and (d) (misconduct), and Oklahoma Rules Governing Disciplinary Proceedings 1.3 (discipline for act contrary to prescribed standards of conduct) and 5.2 (investigations). On September 3, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas affirmed the Judgment [Case No. 21-0163]. BODA Case No. 62368.

On February 1, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Judgment of Disbarment in the compulsory discipline case against Little River Academy attorney **PERRY CORTESE** [#00790508]. On October 20, 2017, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Cause No. 8:15-cr-320-T-23TGW, styled *United States of America v. Perry Don Cortese*, in the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, wherein Cortese was found guilty of Conspiracy to Commit Mail and Wire Fraud and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering. This offense constitutes an Intentional Crime as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Cortese was committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned

for a total term of 300 months, followed by supervised release for 36 months, and ordered to pay \$3,767,196.00 in restitution. The Judgment of Disbarment follows an Interlocutory Order of Suspension issued on January 26, 2018. BODA Case No. 59813.

On January 29, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Revocation and Active Suspension against Port Arthur attorney **GAYLYN LEON COOPER** [#04774700]. The revocation of probation followed a Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension entered by an evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas. The evidentiary panel found that Cooper violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) and (2) (neglect), 1.03 (a) and (b) (communication), 1.14(a) (safekeeping property), and 1.15(d) (protection of client's interests upon termination). Cooper is actively suspended for four years, beginning January 29, 2021, and ending January 28, 2025. BODA Case No. 65079.

On March 23, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order of Nonsuit and Dismissal of Case in the reciprocal discipline case against Lewisville attorney **VINCENT P. DHOOGHE** [#05798950]. The Supreme Court of Texas approved Dhooghe's voluntary resignation in lieu of discipline on March 3, 2021. BODA Case No. 65008.

On January 13, 2021, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order Dismissing Appeals in the case filed by Amarillo attorney **JEFFREY T. JONES** [#00794048]. The Order dismissed the appeal of two

Judgments of Partially Probated Suspension issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 13 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas on November 18, 2019. Jones's motions for new trial were granted. BODA Case Nos. 63824 and 63825.

On November 16, 2020, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Interlocutory Order of Suspension against Houston attorney **JACK STEPHEN PURSLEY** [#24046667]. On August 5, 2020, Pursley was convicted of Conspiracy to Defraud the United States and Tax Evasion, in the matter styled *United States of America v. Jack Stephen Pursley AKA Steve Pursley*, Cause No. 4:18-cr-00575, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division. These offenses are Intentional Crimes as defined in the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Pursley was sentenced to two years in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, followed by two years of supervised release. Pursley has appealed his criminal conviction. The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment if the criminal conviction becomes final. BODA Case No. 64921.

On March 23, 2022, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order of Nonsuit and Dismissal of Case against El Paso attorney **J. MARCOS PERALES-PINA** [#24091472]. The Supreme Court of Texas approved Perales-Pina's voluntary resignation in lieu of discipline on November 10, 2020. BODA Case No. 63667.

On October 2, 2020, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed Judgment of Public

Reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against Frisco attorney **WILLIAM A. COHN** [#04512980]. On October 22, 2019, an Order of Enforcement was issued by the Supreme Court of Tennessee at Nashville in the matter styled *In Re: William Allan Cohn, BPR #005873, An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee (Shelby County)*, File No. M2019-01855-BAR-BP, BOPR No. 2018-2875-9-AJ, wherein Cohn was publicly censured. That court found that Cohn violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15 (c) (safekeeping property and funds) and 8.04 (a) (misconduct). BODA Case No. 64478.

On September 18, 2020, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order in the four appeals filed by The Woodlands attorney **ROBERT AARON MARKLE** [#24098037]. The Order dismissed for want of prosecution appeals of three Judgments of Partially Probated Suspension and one Judgment of Active Suspension, issued on September 4, 2019, by an evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas. The evidentiary panel found that Markle violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) and (2) (neglect), 1.03 (a) and (b) (communication), 1.15(d) (termination of representation), and 8.04(a)(8) (misconduct involving failure to provide a required response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee). Markle was actively suspended for four years, effective August 16, 2019, through August 15, 2023. On March 5, 2021, the Supreme Court of Texas dismissed Markle's appeal for want of prosecution [Case No. 20-0498]. BODA Case Nos. 63671, 63672, 63673, and 63674.

On August 21, 2020, the Supreme Court of Texas approved the voluntary resignation in lieu of discipline by Conroe attorney **MARC MARAMAN TITTLEBAUM** [#24028044]. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals thereafter dismissed the compulsory discipline case against Tittlebaum. BODA Case No. 64482.

On March 16, 2020, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order Dismissing Appeal for Want of Prosecution in the case filed by Houston attorney **WILLIAM E. JONES** [#10964700]. On April 24, 2019, a Judgment of Active Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Jones violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1) (neglect), 1.03(a) (communication), 1.15(d) (termination of representation), and 8.04(a)(8) (misconduct involving failure to provide a required response to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office or a district grievance committee). Jones was actively suspended for three years, from April 5, 2019, to April 4, 2022. BODA Case No. 61009.

On February 10, 2020, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Order Dismissing Appeal for Want of Jurisdiction in the case filed by Dallas attorney **CURTIS LILLY** [#24030063]. On January 15, 2020, a Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension was issued by an evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas, finding that Lilly violated Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct Rules 1.01(b)(1) (neglect),

3.03(a)(1) (candor toward the tribunal, false statement of material fact), 3.04(d) (fairness in adjudicatory proceeding), and 8.04(a)(3) (misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation). BODA Case No. 61009.