



**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS
APPOINTED BY
THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS**

IN THE MATTER OF §
GARY L. LASSEN § **CAUSE NO. 55413**
STATE BAR CARD NO. 11969500 §

JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On the 30th day of January 2015, the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner Commission for Lawyer Discipline of the State Bar of Texas appeared by attorney and announced ready. Respondent, although duly cited to appear and having notice of the time and place of the hearing, failed to answer or appear and wholly made default. All questions of fact as well as all issues of law were submitted to the Board of Disciplinary Appeals for determination. Having considered the pleadings on file, having received evidence, and having heard the argument of counsel, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals is of the opinion that Petitioner is entitled to entry of the following findings and orders:

Findings of Fact. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals finds that:

- (1) Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, Bar Card No. is 11969500, is an attorney who is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas for failure to pay State Bar dues;
- (2) On or about August 14, 2013, a Complaint was filed Before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Gary L. Lassen, Bar No. 005259, Respondent*, PDJ-2013-9068, State Bar No. 11-3770, 12-2382.

- (3) On or about February 7, 2014, a Report and Order Imposing Sanctions was filed in the Supreme Court of the State of Arizona Before the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Gary L. Lassen, Bar No. 005259, Respondent*, PDJ-2013-9068, State Bar Nos. 11-3770, 12-2382.
- (4) On or about March 13, 2014, the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona signed a Final Judgment and Order in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Gary L. Lassen, Bar No. 005259, Respondent*, PDJ-2013-9068, State Bar File Nos. 11-3770, 12-2382, that suspended Respondent from the practice of law for a period of two years effective May 7, 2014, for conduct in violation of his duties and obligations as a lawyer as disclosed in the Hearing Panel's Report.
- (5) Respondent appealed the hearing panel's findings and imposition of a two year suspension and, on or about September 23, 2014, the Supreme Court of Arizona signed a Decision Order in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Gary L. Lassen, Bar No. 005259, Respondent*, Arizona Supreme Court No. SB-14-0012-AP, Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge No. PDJ20139068, suspending Respondent from the practice of law for eighteen months.
- (6) Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, is the same person as the Gary L. Lassen who is the subject of the Decision Order entered by the Supreme Court of Arizona.
- (7) The suspension and Decision Order from the Supreme Court of Arizona is final.
- (8) Respondent was personally served with this Board's Show Cause Order and hearing notice with the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline attached by a duly authorized process server on December 21, 2014, and the affidavit of service was filed with the Board on January 9, 2015.

Conclusions of Law. Based upon the foregoing findings of facts the Board of Disciplinary Appeals makes the following conclusions of law:

- (1) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Tex. Rules Disciplinary P. R. 7.08(H) ("TRDP").
- (2) Reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the Supreme Court of Arizona is warranted in this case.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, State Bar Card No. 11969500 is hereby **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law in Texas for a period of eighteen months beginning the date of this judgment and ending August 3, 2016.

We note, however, that Respondent is currently actively suspended from the practice of law in Texas for failure to pay State Bar dues. This reciprocal suspension is separate from and in addition to Respondent's administrative suspension and does not supersede, waive, or otherwise relieve Respondent from that suspension or from the obligation to comply with all State Bar of Texas and other licensing requirements.

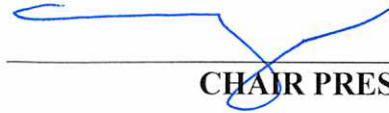
It is further **ORDERED** that during the term of active suspension ordered herein, Respondent shall be prohibited from practicing law in Texas, holding himself out as an attorney at law, performing any legal service for others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services, appearing as counsel in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body, or holding himself out to others or using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney," "counselor," or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, shall notify in writing, no later than 30 days from the date of this Judgment, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, has any legal matter pending, if any, of his suspension, of the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and of the name, address, and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing in that court. Respondent is also **ORDERED** to mail copies of all such notifications to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, shall immediately notify each of his current clients and opposing counsel, if any, in writing, of his suspension. In addition to such notification, Respondent is **ORDERED** to return all files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and properties which are in his possession but which belong to current or former clients, if any, to those respective clients or former clients within 30 days after the date of this Judgment. Respondent is further **ORDERED** to file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same 30 days, an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of his suspension and that all files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and properties belonging to clients and former clients have been returned as ordered herein. If Respondent should be unable to return any file, papers, money or other property to any client or former client, Respondent's affidavit shall state with particularity the efforts made by Respondent with respect to each particular client and the cause of his inability to return to said client any file, paper, money or other property. Respondent is also **ORDERED** to mail a copy of said affidavit and copies of all notification letters to clients to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Gary L. Lassen, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Signed this 3rd day of February, 2015.



CHAIR PRESIDING