

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

IN THE MATTER OF§VINCENT W. ALDRIDGE§CAUSE NO. 49053State Bar of Texas Card No. 00793244§

## JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

On the 25th day of July 2014, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals considered the Motion for

Entry of Judgment of Disbarment filed in the above case by Petitioner, Commission for Lawyer

Discipline of the State Bar of Texas, against Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge. The Board finds that:

- (1) It has continuing jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05 ("TRDP").
- (2) The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge's, criminal conviction in Cause NO. 11-20516 and issued its Judgment issued as Mandate indicating that the decision was final on or about February 12, 2014.
- Petitioner filed its Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment on June 5, 2014, and Respondent was served with the Motion and hearing notice by a Dallas County Deputy Sheriff on June 19, 2014 in accordance with TRDP 8.05.
- (4) Respondent Aldridge, although duly cited to appear and having notice of the hearing, failed to answer or appear and wholly made default.
- (5) Respondent's conviction for the commission of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T), for which he was sentenced in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, has become final and is not subject to further direct appeal.
- (6) Respondent having been convicted of Intentional Crimes and been sentenced to a term of imprisonment, Respondent's criminal sentence is not fully

probated.

(7) Petitioner's Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment should be granted.

## **Interlocutory Suspension**

Following a hearing on the 27th day of September 2011, at which Petitioner Commission for

Lawyer Discipline of the State Bar of Texas appeared by attorney and announced ready and

Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, appeared and announced ready, the Board of Disciplinary

Appeals entered an Interlocutory Order of Suspension on or about September 29, 2011, which

included the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

- (1) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, whose State Bar Card number is 00793244, is licensed and authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about March 25, 2010, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Count One - Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Counts Two through Twelve – Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Count Thirteen -Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property; Counts Fourteen through Nineteen – Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property in Cause No. H-10-185, styled *United States of America v. Vincent Wallace Aldridge, Tori Elyse Aldridge and Gilbert Barry Isgar*, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.
- (3) On or about July 26, 2011, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Case No. 4:10CR00185-001, styled United States of America v. Vincent Wallace Aldridge, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Count 1 Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Counts 2 through 12 Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Count 13 Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property; and Counts 14 through 19 Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property and was committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of sixty-three (63) months and ordered upon release from imprisonment to be on supervised release for three (3) years, ordered to pay an assessment of \$1,900.00 and a fine of \$891,000.00.

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- (4) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, is the same person as the Vincent Wallace Aldridge who is the subject of the Aldridge criminal case described above.
- (5) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction.
- (6) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 7.08(g) ("TRDP"").
- (7) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, having been convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property; and Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property, has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).
- (8) Respondent has also been convicted of Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (9) Having been convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed said conviction, Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, should have his license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeal of his criminal conviction. TRDP 8.04.
- (10) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final.

## Disbarment

It is, therefore, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent,

Vincent W. Aldridge, State Bar No. 00793244, be and he is hereby DISBARRED from the practice

of law in the State of Texas, and his license to practice law in this state be and is hereby revoked.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, is hereafter permanently prohibited, effective immediately, 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 or in any representative capacity 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, Vincent W. Aldridge, not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the entry of this judgment, shall notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court, if any, in which Respondent has any legal matter pending, if any, of his disbarment, 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 Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, shall immediately notify each of his current clients and opposing counsel, if any, in writing, of his disbarment. 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 thirty (30) days after the date on which this Judgment is signed by the Board. Respondent is further ORDERED to file with the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of his disbarment 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 copies of all notification letters to clients, to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, if he has not already done so, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P. O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Signed this  $30^{t_2}$  day of July 2014.

JAL anno Shend

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