

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

IN THE MATTER OF \$
ALAN EDWARD GOODING \$ CAUSE NO. 53370
State Bar of Texas Card No. 24028488 \$

DEFAULT JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On the 31st day of January 2014, the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and announced ready. Respondent, Alan Edward Gooding, although duly cited to appear, failed to appear and wholly made default. All matters of fact as well as all matters of law were submitted to the Board of Disciplinary Appeals for determination.

The Board finds that:

- (1) Respondent, Alan Edward Gooding, is an attorney who is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas, and whose Bar Card No. is 24028488;
- On or about July 31, 2012, a Complaint was filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Alan E. Gooding, Bar No. 023060, Respondent*, PDJ-2012-9070, [State Bar File Nos. 11-0421,11-0976, 11-2125, 11-2369, 11-2412, 11-2526, 11-2686, 11-2763, 11-2960, 11-3628, 11-3909].
- (3) On or about August 29, 2012, a Notice of Default was filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Alan E. Gooding, Bar No. 023060, Respondent*, PDJ-2012-9070, [Nos. 11-0421,11-0976, 11-2125, 11-2369, 11-2412, 11-2526, 11-2686, 11-2763,

11-2960, 11-3628, 11-3909].

- (4) On or about September 11, 2012, an Entry of Default and Notice of Aggravation/Mitigation Hearing was filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Alan E. Gooding, Bar No. 023060, Respondent*, PDJ-2012-9070, [State Bar File Nos. 11-0421,11-0976, 11-2125, 11-2369, 11-2412, 11-2526, 11-2686, 11-2763, 11-2960, 11-3628, 11-3909].
- On or about October 29, 2012, a Report and Order Imposing Sanctions was filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Alan E. Gooding, Bar No. 023060, Respondent*, PDJ-2012-9070, [State Bar File Nos. 11-0421,11-0976, 11-2125, 11-2369, 11-2412, 11-2526, 11-2686, 11-2763, 11-2960, 11-3628, 11-3909]. The Report and Order Imposing Sanctions states Mr. Gooding violated the following Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.2(a); Rule 1.3 (three counts); Rule 1.4(a)(1) (three counts); Rule 1.4(a)(3); Rule 1.4(a)(4) (two counts); Rule 1.8(a); Rule 1.15(a); Rule 3.2 (two counts); Rule 5.5(a); Rule 8.1(b) (eight counts); Rule 8.4(c); and Rule 8.4(d) (three counts).
- (6) On or about November 14, 2012, a Final Judgment and Order was filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in a matter styled, *In the Matter of a Suspended Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Alan E. Gooding, Bar No. 023060, Respondent*, PDJ-2012-9070, [File Nos. 11-0421,11-0976, 11-2125, 11-2369, 11-2412, 11-2526, 11-2686, 11-2763, 11-2960, 11-3628, 11-3909], suspending Respondent from the practice of law for three years.
- (3) Respondent, Alan Edward Gooding, is the same person as the Alan E. Gooding, who is the subject of the Final Judgment and Order filed before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona; and
- (4) The Final Judgment and Order entered by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona is final.

<u>Conclusions of Law.</u> 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. R.

Disciplinary P. 7.08(H);

(2) Reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona is warranted in this case.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Alan Edward Gooding, State Bar Card No. 24028488, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in Texas for a period of three years, beginning on the date of this judgment and ending on February 4, 2017.

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 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, Alan Edward Gooding, shall notify in writing, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, Alan Edward Gooding, 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, Alan Edward Gooding, 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 thirty (30) days after the date on which this Judgment is signed by the Board. Respondent is further ORDERED to file with this Board, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients 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 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, Alan Edward Gooding, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the 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 Jewnay 2014.

CHAIR PRESIDING