

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
JOHN JEROME LEWIS	§	CAUSE NO. 46726
STATE BAR CARD NO. 12294020	§	

JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

On the 19th day of October 2010, the above-styled and numbered compulsory discipline action pursuant to Part VIII, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure (“TRDP”) 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, John Jerome Lewis, although duly cited to appear and having notice of the hearing, failed to answer or appear and wholly made default. All issues of fact as well as all questions 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, John Jerome Lewis, State Bar Card Number 12294020, is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas by the Supreme Court of Texas due to being administratively suspended for failure to comply with the Minimum Continuing Legal Education requirements.
- (2) On March 6, 2005, John Jerome Lewis was charged by Information with Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 1951), in Cause No. 3:07-CR-289-M, styled *United States of America v. John J. Lewis (14)*, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division.

- (3) On March 6, 2009, a Plea Agreement was entered in Case No. 3:07-CR-289-M, styled *United States of America v. John J. Lewis (14)*, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, wherein Lewis pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 1951).
- (4) On or about March 31, 2010, the court signed a Judgment in a Criminal Case in Cause No. 3:07-CR-289-M (14) wherein Respondent pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Extortion, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 1951), and was sentenced to one year and one day in the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be followed by two (2) years of supervised release upon release from imprisonment, ordered to participate in the Home Confinement Program for a period of eight (8) months, ordered to pay \$25,000 to the U.S. Government and an assessment in the amount of \$100.
- (5) Respondent, John Jerome Lewis, is the same person as the John J. Lewis who is the subject of the Judgment described above.
- (6) Respondent was personally served by a duly authorized process server with the Petition for Compulsory Discipline and hearing notice on August 27, 2010, and the affidavit of service was filed with the Board on September 29, 2010.
- (7) The criminal conviction is final.
- (8) The criminal sentence is not fully probated.

Conclusions of Law. Based upon the foregoing findings of fact the Board of Disciplinary

Appeals makes the following conclusions of law:

- (1) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 7.08(G) ("TRDP").
- (2) Respondent, John Jerome Lewis, has been convicted for purposes of TRDP 8.04 of an Intentional Crime as defined by TRDP 1.06(T). The Intentional Crime is also a Serious Crime as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (3) Because the conviction is final and the criminal sentence is not fully probated, Respondent, John Jerome Lewis, should be disbarred. TRDP 8.05.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, John Jerome Lewis, State Bar Card No. 12294020, 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, John Jerome Lewis, 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 not completed before the date of this judgment, 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, John Jerome Lewis, shall notify in writing, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this judgment of disbarment, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, John Jerome Lewis, 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 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, John Jerome Lewis, shall notify each of his current clients, if any, in writing, of his disbarment within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment. 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 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 thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients 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 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, John Jerome Lewis, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Signed this 22nd day of October 2010.



CHAIR PRESIDING