



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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>	§	
<b>JOSE LUIS PALACIOS,</b>	§	<b>CAUSE NO. 54410</b>
<i>State Bar of Texas Card No. 24043858</i>	§	

**DEFAULT JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2014, the above-styled and numbered 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, Jose Luis Palacios, although duly cited to appear and having notice 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, Jose Luis Palacios, State Bar Card Number 24043858, is licensed and currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas by the Supreme Court of Texas.
- (2) On or about June 25, 2013, Respondent, was charged by Sealed Indictment with Count One – knowingly and intentionally conspiring to knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, U.S.C., §§ 846, 841(a)(1), and 841(b)(1)(B), and Count Fifteen – knowingly and intentionally possessing with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, U.S.C., §§ 841(a)(1), and 841(b)(1)(B) and Title 18, U.S.C., § 2, in Case No. M-13-994, styled *United States of America v. (among others) Jose*

*Palacios, Jr.*, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, McAllen Division.

- (3) On or about August 20, 2013, Respondent, was charged by Superseding Indictment with Count One – knowingly and intentionally conspiring to knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, U.S.C., §§ 846, 841(a)(1), and 841(b)(1)(B), and Count Fifteen – knowingly and intentionally possessing with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, U.S.C., §§ 841(a)(1), and 841(b)(1)(B) and Title 18, U.S.C., § 2, in Case No. M-13-0994-S1, styled *United States of America v. (among others) Jose Palacios, Jr.*, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, McAllen Division.
- (4) On or about October 1, 2013, a Notice of Plea Agreement was entered in Case No. M-13-0994-S1-15, styled *United States of America v. Jose Palacios, Jr.*, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, McAllen Division, wherein Respondent agreed to plead guilty to Count 15 of the Superseding Indictment.
- (5) On or about March 19, 2014, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Case No. 7:13CR00994-S1-015, styled *United States of America v. Jose Palacios, Jr.*, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, Holding Session in McAllen, wherein Respondent pled guilty to Count 15 – Possession, with intent to distribute, 100 kilograms or more of marijuana and was committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of 144 months and upon release from imprisonment to be on supervised release for a term of 5 years. Respondent was further ordered to pay an assessment in the amount of \$100.00.
- (6) Respondent, Jose Luis Palacios is the same person as the Jose Louis Palacios who is the subject of the Judgment described above.
- (7) Having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment, Respondent's criminal sentence is not fully probated.
- (8) Respondent was personally served with the Petition for Compulsory Discipline and hearing setting notice on June 18, 2014 by a Live Oak County Deputy Sheriff, and the affidavit of service was filed with BODA on July 7, 2014.

**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. Tex. R. Disciplinary P. 7.08(G).
- (2) Respondent, Jose Luis Palacios, has been convicted for purposes of TRDP 8.04 of an Intentional Crime as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).
- (3) Respondent has been convicted of a Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (4) The conviction is final.
- (5) Having been convicted of an Intentional Crime, the conviction being final, and having been sentenced to a term of imprisonment, Respondent, Jose Luis Palacios, should be disbarred. TRDP 8.05.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Jose Luis Palacios, State Bar Card No. 24043858, 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, Jose Luis Palacios, 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 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, Jose Luis Palacios, 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, Jose Luis Palacios, 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, Jose Luis Palacios, 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 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 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 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, Jose Luis Palacios, 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 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIR PRESIDING**