



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

IN THE MATTER OF §
RONALD EUGENE REYNOLDS § **CAUSE NO. 57004**
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24025610 §

INTERLOCUTORY ORDER OF SUSPENSION

On the 29th day of April 2016, the above-styled and numbered compulsory 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 Ronald Eugene Reynolds appeared in person and by attorney and announced ready. 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 makes the following findings and orders:

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

- (1) On or about July 31, 2015, Respondent was charged by Information with barratry, in Cause No. 15-307888-04 in the County Court at Law of Montgomery County.
- (2) On or about July 31, 2015, Respondent was charged by Information with barratry, in Cause No. 15-307889-04 in the County Court at Law of Montgomery County.
- (3) On or about July 31, 2015, Respondent was charged by Information with barratry, in Cause No. 15-307890-04 in the County Court at Law of Montgomery County.

- (4) On or about July 31, 2015, Respondent was charged by Information with barratry, in Cause No. 15-307891-04 in the County Court at Law of Montgomery County.
- (5) On or about July 31, 2015, Respondent was charged by Information with barratry, in Cause No. 15-307892-04 in the County Court at Law of Montgomery County.
- (6) On or about November 24 2015, a Trial Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 15-307888, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Eugene Reynolds*, in County Court at Law 4 of Montgomery County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Barratry and was sentenced to 365 days in the Montgomery County Jail, ordered to pay a \$4,000.00 fine and \$292.00 in court costs.
- (7) On or about November 24 2015, a Trial Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 15-307889, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Eugene Reynolds*, in County Court at Law 4 of Montgomery County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Barratry III Obtain Employment and was sentenced to 365 days in the Montgomery County Jail to run concurrently with 15-307888, ordered to pay a \$4,000.00 fine and \$222.00 in court costs.
- (8) On or about November 24 2015, a Trial Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 15-307890, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Eugene Reynolds*, in County Court at Law 4 of Montgomery County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Barratry III Obtain Employment and was sentenced to 365 days in the Montgomery County Jail to run concurrently with 15-307888, ordered to pay a \$4,000.00 fine and \$227.00 in court costs.
- (9) On or about November 24 2015, a Trial Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 15-307891, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Eugene Reynolds*, in County Court at Law 4 of Montgomery County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Barratry III Obtain Employment and was sentenced to 365 days in the Montgomery County Jail to run concurrently with 15-307888, ordered to pay a \$4,000.00 fine and \$227.00 in court costs.
- (10) On or about November 24 2015, a Trial Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 15-307892, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Eugene Reynolds*, in County Court at Law 4 of Montgomery County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Barratry III Obtain Employment and was sentenced to 365 days in the Montgomery County Jail to run concurrently with 15-307888, ordered to pay a \$4,000.00 fine

and \$227.00 in court costs.

- (11) Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds is the same person as the Ronald Eugene Reynolds, who is the subject of the criminal cases described above.
- (12) Respondent has appealed the criminal convictions.

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. R. Disciplinary P. 7.08(G) ("TRDP").
- (2) Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, having been convicted of Barratry and four counts of Barratry III Obtain Employment, has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).
- (3) Respondent has also been convicted of Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(AA).
- (4) Having been found guilty and convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed such convictions, Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds' license to practice law in Texas shall be suspended during the appeal of his criminal convictions. TRDP 8.04.
- (5) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final. TRDP 8.05.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, State Bar Card No. 24025610, is hereby **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law in the State of Texas effective immediately upon entry of this order and continuing hereafter until further order of this Board.

It is further **ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED** that Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, during said suspension is hereby 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

order, 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, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, 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, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, 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. 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 wither (a) that each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, has any legal matter pending, if any, of his suspension, has been notified or (b) that Respondent has no legal matters pending in any court.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, shall immediately notify each of his current clients, 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 with active cases pending, if any, to those respective clients or former clients with active cases pending within thirty (30) days after the date of this Order. 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 either (a) 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 with active cases pending have been returned as ordered herein or (b) that Respondent has no current clients, files, or papers, and that any unearned fees paid in advance or other monies or properties belonging to clients have previously been returned to the appropriate client. If Respondent is unable to return any file, papers, money or other property to any client or former client with active cases pending, 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 all notification letters 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, Ronald Eugene Reynolds, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

It is further **ORDERED** that this Order is interlocutory and that the Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final. TRDP 8.05; *In the Matter of Mercier*, 242 SW 3d 46 (Tex. 2007).

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent shall promptly notify the Board and the State Bar of Texas Chief Disciplinary Counsel when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final.

It is further **ORDERED** that the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas shall monitor the status of the appeal of the criminal conviction on at least a quarterly basis and promptly file an appropriate motion for entry of final judgment with the Board when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final.

Signed this **2** day of May 2016.



CHAIR PRESIDING