

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

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IN THE MATTER OF EMEKA M. UYAMADU STATE BAR CARD NO. 00788571

**CAUSE NO. 46776** 

## **DEFAULT JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2012, 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, Emeka M. Uyamadu. Petitioner

appeared by counsel and announced ready. Respondent, although having been duly served with the

motion and having notice of the hearing, failed to answer or appeal and wholly made default.

The Board finds that:

(1) It has continuing jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05 ("TRDP");

(2) The Fourteenth Court of Appeals affirmed Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu's criminal convictions and issued its Mandates indicating that the decisions were final on or about June 22, 2012;

(3) Petitioner filed its Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment on or about September 6, 2012.

(4) Respondent was personally served by a duly authorized process server with the Motion for Entry of Judgment on September 13, 2012 and the affidavit of service has been on file with the Board since October 1, 2012.

(5) Respondent's convictions for the commission of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T), for which he was sentenced in the 176th District Court of Harris County, Texas, have become final and are not subject to appeal;

Judgment of Disbarment Uyamadu BODA No. 46776 Page 1 of 5 (6) Petitioner's Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment should be granted.

## **Interlocutory Suspension**

Following a hearing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 2010, at which Petitioner Commission for Lawyer Discipline of the State Bar of Texas appeared by attorney and announced ready and Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu, although duly cited to appear and having been given notice of the hearing, failed to answer or appear and wholly made default, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a Default Interlocutory Order of Suspension on or about July 26, 2010, which included the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

- (1) Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu, whose State Bar Card number is 00788571, is licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law and currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about March 3, 2008, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Theft, in Cause No. 1138060, styled *The State of Texas v. Emeka Michael Uyamadu*, in the 176<sup>th</sup> District Court of Harris County, Texas.
- (3) On or about July 29, 2008, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Tampering with a Witness, in Cause No. 1176507, styled *The State of Texas* v. *Emeka Uyamadu*, in the 176<sup>th</sup> District Court of Harris County, Texas.
- (4) On or about April 23, 2010, a Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 1138060, styled *The State of Texas v. Uyamadu, Emeka Michael*, in 176<sup>th</sup> District Court of Harris County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Theft over \$20,000 under \$100,000, a Third Degree Felony, and was sentenced to ten (10) years in the custody of the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, with that sentence being suspended and Uyamadu being placed on community supervision for ten (10) years, ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine, and to serve sixty (60) days in the Harris County Jail.
- (5) On or about April 23, 2010, a Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Case No. 1176507, styled *The State of Texas v. Uyamadu, Emeka Michael, in* 176<sup>th</sup> District Court of Harris County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Tampering with a Witness, a State Jail Felony, and was sentenced to

two (2) years in the custody of the State Jail Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and ordered to pay a \$3,000 fine.

- (6) Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu, is the same person as the Emeka Michael Uyamadu who is the subject of the Uyamadu criminal cases described above.
- (7) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction in Cause No. 1176507 and Cause No. 1138060.
- (8) Respondent was personally served by a duly authorized process server with the Petition for Compulsory Discipline on June 16, 2010, as shown in the affidavit of service filed June 29, 2010 with the Board.
- (9) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure Rule 7.08(G) ("TRDP").
- (10) Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu, having been convicted of Theft over \$20,000 under \$100,000 and Tampering with a Witness has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).
- (11) Respondent has also been convicted of Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (12) Having been found guilty and convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed such convictions, Respondent, Emeka M. Uyamadu, should have his license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeals of his criminal convictions. TRDP 8.04.
- (13) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when one or both of the criminal appeals are final.

## Disbarment

The Board has determined that disbarment of the Respondent is appropriate. It is,

therefore, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Emeka

M. Uyamadu, State Bar No. 00788571, 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, Emeka M. Uyamadu, 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, Emeka M. Uyamadu, 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, Emeka M. Uyamadu, 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 this Board, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of

Judgment of Disbarment Uyamadu BODA No. 46776 Page 4 of 5 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 a copy of said affidavit and 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, Emeka M. Uyamadu, 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 24 day of October 2012.

Chair Presiding

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