

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

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IN THE MATTER OF WESLEY LINDON CLARKE STATE BAR NO. 24014252

CAUSE NO. 65865

RESPONDENT'S FIRST ORIGINAL ANSWER

Comes now, Respondent, Wesley Lindon Clarke, and files this, his First Original Answer, showing as follows:

I.

On or about September 8, 2021, the State Bar of Texas initiated this action by filing a Petition for Reciprocal Discipline and thereafter obtained personal service on Mr. Clarke on or about September 23, 2021.

II.

General Denial

Pursuant to Rule 92, T.R.C.P., and Rule 7.03 of the Board of Disciplinary Appeals' Internal Procedural Rules, to prevent default and to join the issues in this case, Respondent files a General Denial and demands strict proof of all elements of Petitioner's asserted cause of action.

III.

Identification and Admissions

Wesley Lindon Clarke, the Respondent herein, admits and acknowledges that he is the same Wesley Lindon Clarke named in Exhibits 1 and 2 to the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline. Respondent further acknowledges that he consented to disbarment from the Bar of the District of Columbia as set forth in Exhibit 1 to the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline. Respondent further acknowledges that the affidavit bearing his name and signed on August 21, 2019 (Exhibit B to Exhibit 3 of the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline), is a true and correct copy of a document he executed on August 21, 2019.

Respondent further acknowledges that he is a Texas licensed attorney, State Bar number 24014252, the person described in the style and numbered paragraph 2 of the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline on file in this matter.

Respondent confirms that, as set forth this honorable tribunal's Order Granting Respondent's Motion for Continuance, dated October 26, 2021, Respondent Clarke does not have an active license to practice law in Texas and is not engaged in the practice of law in the State of Texas.

IV

Statutory Defenses.

Respondent, Wesley Lindon Clarke, will present evidence and argument, as permitted by Rule 9.04.C, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, to respectfully urge to this honorable tribunal that imposition of the same discipline as imposed by the Bar of the District of Columbia would result in grave injustice. Respondent does not contest that some degree of discipline should be imposed as a reciprocal sanction.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Respondent respectfully prays that, after consideration of evidence and the argument of counsel, this honorable tribunal enter judgment that imposes discipline that appropriately addresses the unique facts and circumstances of his life, practice, and discipline imposed by sister jurisdictions and that he be granted such other and further relief to which he is entitled in law or equity.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN L. LEE, P.C. 1411 West Ave., Suite 100 Austin, Texas 78701 Phone (512) 215-2355 Fax (512) 857-8108 slee@txethieslaw.com

By:

STEVEN L. LEE State Bar No. 12137400 Attorney for Respondent

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Respondent's First Original Answer was sent by email, this <u>_____</u>day of April, 2022, to:

Luis Marin Assistant Disciplinary Counsel State Bar of Texas P.O. Box 12487 Austin, Texas 78711-2487 luis.marin@texasbar.com

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