

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

IN THE MATTER OF §
ALFONSO KENNARD, JR §

CAUSE NO 71282

STATE BAR CARD NO. 24036888

RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR CONITNUANCE OF HEARING

Respondent ALFONSO KENNARD, Jr., brings this Motion for Continuance of the July 25, 2025, Revocation Hearing:

I. <u>INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY</u>

Respondent is presently seeking a review and transfer of multiple disciplinary matters, pending before the Evidentiary Panel of the State Bar, to District Court, per *Respondent Alfonso Kennard's*Original Counterpetition for Declaratory Relief, Application for Temporary Injunction, and Motion to Consolidate, filed May 1, 2025, in the 190th District Court of Harris County, Texas. The gist of Respondent's filing is an assertion of his right and preference to have all State Bar matters brought against Respondent transferred and heard in District Court, as permitted by Tex. R. of Disciplinary P. § 2.15.

Following that filing, counsel for the State Bar of Texas, Melissa Jordan, agreed to postpone all disciplinary hearings that were then scheduled to September and October to permit time for discovery and potential resolution. Pursuant to that agreement, Respondent in good faith did not pay the fine imposed in this underlying action. Thereafter, on or about June 26, 2025, Respondent—not counsel—received notice of a July 25, 2025, hearing for revocation of probation. Respondent now seeks a continuance of the July 25, 2025, hearing to allow Respondent to present his argument that this matter and all pending matters should be rightfully heard in district court, to properly prepare for said hearing, and to allow for continued discussion regarding a global resolution of this and other matters brought by the Bar.

II. NOTICE OF HEARING

First, Respondent objects to the notice and correspondence regarding this revocation matter that was served by the Bar directly on Respondent rather than counsel on or before June 25, 2025. Counsel Tim Soefje and his firm entered an appearance in this underlying matter and in several Bar matters as early as January 2025. Mr. Soefje or his Partner Gabriel Canto have communicated with State Bar Attorney Melissa Jordan consistently and repeatedly since their appearance in January 2025. The Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel was on notice that Respondent had counsel and should not have been communicating with Respondent directly. By not communicating with counsel directly, Respondent's counsel was notified of this hearing later than necessary prejudicing his ability to prepare for this hearing, as counsel has several hearings and depositions set for July 2025. Respondent moves for a continuance to permit more time to prepare for this matter.

III.RIGHT TO PROCEED IN DISTRICT COURT

Further, Respondent has asserted his right to have the underlying matter reheard in district court, per the May 1, 2025, *Original Counterpetition for Declaratory Relief, Application for Temporary Injunction, and Motion to Consolidate*. The gist of that Petition is to (1) move for a declaratory judgment affirming Respondent's right to defend himself on disciplinary matters in district court, per Tex. R. of Disciplinary P. § 2.15, (2) to stay all active proceedings before the evidentiary panel or Board of Disciplinary Appeals, and (3) to consolidate all 16 grievances filed against him into a single district court matter where Respondent can fairly defend himself and receive due process.

Thereafter, Respondent and counsel for the State Bar, Melissa Jordan, amicably agreed to reset several evidentiary hearings that were then set for June to September and October. The State Bar then served multiple discovery requests in early May, which were responded to in early June. All those matters are now set for hearing in September or October and Respondent intends to continue dialogue with Ms. Jordan in the hopes of an agreed resolution.

It offends the spirit of that agreement for this revocation matter to proceed July 25, 2025.

Because, as referenced above, any correspondence regarding this revocation matter went to Respondent directly, the status of this revocation matter was not known to counsel at the time of those discussions. If it had been, a reset of any revocation hearing to October could have been included in discussions. As such, Respondent will suffer prejudice in his ability to defend himself not just in this matter but all pending matters before the Bar.

IV. IN ANY CASE, JUSTICE AND EFFICIENCY FAVORS A CONTINUANCE

Lastly, this matter can be reset to an October hearing with no prejudice to the Petitioner.

Respondent has raised important matters concerning his rights as an attorney and his desire to defend himself in district court across multiple actions at various procedural stages. Justice and logic dictate that Respondent makes those arguments in district court before addressing this revocation matter. Resetting this matter to October will permit time for that to occur and best serve the ends of justice and efficiency. This continuance is not sought for reason of delay but that justice be done.

V. CONCLUSION

Respondent ALFONSO KENNARD, JR. moves for a continuance of the revocation hearing set for July 25, 2025, to the October docket.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/ TIMOTHY B. SOEFJE

TIMOTHY B. SOEFJE

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ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE:

Pursuant to Rule 2.09 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure and the Rules of Civil Procedure, I hereby certify that on July 11, 2025, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing instrument was delivered to the following:

Via Email

Richard Huntpalmer Assistant Disciplinary Counsel Richard.Huntpalmer@TEXASBAR.COM

> /s/Timothy B. Soefje TIMOTHY B. SOEFJE