

## 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 §

## ORDER REVOKING PROBATION AND ACTIVELY SUSPENDING RESPONDENT FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW

On the 25th day of July, 2025, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals heard the Petition for Revocation of Probation filed by the Commission for Lawyer Discipline of the State Bar of Texas, Petitioner, against Alfonso Kennard, Jr., State Bar No. 24036888, Respondent. The Commission appeared by attorney, while Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., appeared pro se. Having considered the pleadings on file, having received evidence, and having heard the parties' arguments, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals makes the following findings, conclusions, and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., whose State Bar Card number is 24036888, is currently licensed and authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law.
- (2) Respondent's counsel acknowledged service of the Petition for Revocation of Probation and hearing notice via email on July 3, 2025. Petitioner filed the acknowledgment of service with the Board on July 11, 2025.
- (3) On December 14, 2023, in a case styled *Commission for Lawyer Discipline* v. *Alfonso Kennard, Jr.*, Case Nos. 202303977 [Christie Crummel] and 202304353 [Alberto Lopez], Evidentiary Panel 4-4 of the District 4 Grievance Committee, State Bar of Texas, entered a Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension in which Respondent was found to have violated

- Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8).
- (4) The evidentiary panel suspended Respondent for one (1) year, with the suspension fully probated, beginning December 5, 2024, and ending December 4, 2025.
- (5) Respondent's probated suspension was subject to the following terms and conditions, in relevant part:

Respondent shall pay restitution on or before March 1, 2025, to Christie Crummel, in the amount of Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00). Respondent shall pay the restitution by certified or cashier's check or money order made payable to Christie Crummel, and delivered to the STATE BAR OF TEXAS, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, Texas 78701).

Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees and direct expenses to the STATE BAR OF TEXAS in the amount of Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Eight and No/100 Dollars (\$3,2683.00) [sic]. The payment shall be due and payable on or before April 1, 2025, and shall be made by certified or cashier's check or money order. Respondent shall forward the funds, made payable to the STATE BAR OF TEXAS, to the STATE BAR OF TEXAS, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, Texas 78701).

Respondent shall make contact with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Offices' Compliance Monitor at 512-427-1334 and Special Programs Coordinator at 512-427-1343, not later than seven (7) days after receipt of a copy of this Judgment to coordinate Respondent's compliance.

- (6) At the hearing before the Board, Respondent's counsel made a motion to withdraw, which the Board granted.
- (7) At the hearing, Petitioner offered evidence that Respondent had mailed two checks to the State Bar of Texas the prior day, on July 24, 2025, one in the amount of \$7,150, with memo line stating "Crummel restitution (5000) + Berger Atty fees (2150), and the other in the amount of \$3,268, with memo line stating "Crummel Atty fees." The date on both checks is July 20, 2025, and both show as written on an account for Kennard Law P.C., which

Respondent stated is his IOLTA account.

- (8) Petitioner's Exhibit 5 shows that Respondent paid for shipping for the checks referenced in paragraph (6), above, at a UPS Store on July 24, 2025, with an expected shipment date of July 25, 2025, the date of Respondent's hearing before the Board.
- (9) The Board announced during the hearing that it would wait fourteen (14) days before issuing an order to encourage Respondent to pay the restitution and attorney's fees and expenses due under the disciplinary judgment.
- (10) On August 8, 2025, Petitioner filed a Post-Hearing Brief representing that the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's office received Respondent's payment for the outstanding restitution and attorney's fees on August 7, 2025. Although Petitioner provided no proof of payment, the brief suggests that Respondent complied with the disciplinary judgment's requirement that payment be made by money order or cashier's check. Despite Respondent having satisfied the financial obligations at issue, Petitioner maintains that Respondent's probation should be revoked under Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 2.22.
- (11) Respondent violated the terms and conditions of probation contained in the disciplinary judgment in the following manner:
  - (a) Respondent failed to satisfy the obligation to pay \$5,000 in restitution to Christie Crummel by March 1, 2025, with payment by cashier's check or money order. The check mailed by Respondent on July 25, 2025, was sent well after the deadline and was not in the form of a cashier's check or money order as required under the judgment. The payment that Petitioner purportedly received on August 7, 2025, was more than five months late.
  - (b) Respondent failed to satisfy the obligation to pay \$3,268 in attorney's fees and expenses to the State Bar of Texas by April 1, 2025, with payment by cashier's check or money order. The check mailed by Respondent on July 25, 2025, was sent well after the deadline and was not in the form of a cashier's check or money order as required under the judgment and appears to draw funds from Respondent's IOLTA account. The payment that Petitioner purportedly received on August 7, 2025, was more than four months late.
  - (c) Respondent failed to make contact with the Compliance Monitor and Special Programs Coordinator as required by the judgment. Even when Respondent believed the judgment to be paused or stayed pending resolution of a

matter in district court, neither Respondent nor his counsel contacted the Compliance Monitor or Special Programs Coordinator to inquire about the status of Respondent's obligations under the judgment.

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 exclusive jurisdiction to hear a petition to revoke a probated suspension from the practice of law imposed by an evidentiary panel of a State Bar of Texas grievance committee, during the full term of suspension, including the probationary period. Tex. Rules Disciplinary P. R. 2.22; *In re State Bar of Tex.*, 113 S.W.3d 730, 733 (Tex. 2003).
- (2) Petitioner proved by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent violated the terms and conditions of the Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension signed December 14, 2025, in Cause Nos. 202303977 and 202304353.
- (3) The justification offered for Respondent's noncompliance, which includes reliance on advice of counsel and belief that the disciplinary judgment was somehow paused in connection with a separate matter pending in district court, is immaterial to the Board's analysis under Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 2.22.
- (4) Upon proof of a probation violation of the terms and conditions of probation, this Board shall revoke the probation and suspend the attorney from the practice of law for the full term of suspension without credit for any probationary time served. Tex. Rules Disciplinary P. R. 2.22.
- (5) Respondent must be actively suspended for the full term of the suspension as imposed by the Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension, without credit for the probationary time already served.
- (6) This Order revoking probated suspension cannot be superseded or stayed.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that the probation for Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., State Bar No. 24036888, imposed by the above-referenced Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension, be and hereby is REVOKED, and Respondent be and is actively **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law in the State of Texas for a period of one (1) year,

beginning September 13, 2025, and extending through September 12, 2026.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that Respondent, Alfonso

Kennard, Jr., during said suspension is prohibited from practicing law in Texas, holding himself

out as an attorney at law, performing any legal services 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 administrative body, or holding himself out to others

or using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney,"

"counselor at law," "esquire," "Esq.," or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that nothing in this Order Revoking Probation and Actively

Suspending Respondent from the Practice of Law shall relieve Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr.,

of any outstanding requirements under the Judgment of Fully Probated Suspension referenced

above as to payment of restitution and payment of attorney's fees and expenses. Any failure to

comply may be independent grounds for discipline as allowed under the Texas Disciplinary Rules

of Professional Conduct and Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., shall immediately notify

each of his current clients, if any, in writing of this suspension. In addition to such notification,

Respondent is **ORDERED** to return any files, papers, unearned monies, or other property, if any,

which belongs to clients and former clients and is in Respondent's possession or control, to the

respective clients or former clients or to another attorney at the client's or former client's request,

within thirty (30) days of the date of this order.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., shall file with the State

Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414)

Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, an affidavit

stating that all current clients have been notified of Respondent's suspension and that all files,

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papers, monies, and other property belonging to all clients and former clients has been returned as

ordered herein. If Respondent should be unable to return any such files, papers, monies, or other

property, 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 said client any file, paper,

money, or other property.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., shall, on or before thirty

(30) days from the date of this order, notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge,

magistrate, administrative judge or officer, and chief justice of each and every court or tribunal in

which Respondent has any matter pending, if any, of the terms of this order, the style and cause

number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s)

Respondent has represented.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., shall file with the State

Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414

Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, an affidavit

stating that Respondent has sent written notice to each and every justice of the peace, judge,

magistrate, administrative judge or officer, and chief in accordance with the terms of this order.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Alfonso Kennard, Jr., shall immediately

surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance

Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin,

Texas 78711(1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme

Court of Texas.

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It is further **ORDERED** that this Order Revoking Probation and Actively Suspending Respondent from the Practice of Law shall be made a matter of public record and that notice of this disciplinary action shall be published in the *Texas Bar Journal*.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025.

VICE CHAIR PRESIDING

Board members W.C. Kirkendall, Fernando Bustos, Arthur D'Andrea, and Robert Henneke did not participate in this decision.