

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
VINCENT W. ALDRIDGE	§	CAUSE NO. 49053
STATE BAR CARD NO. 00793244	§	

INTERLOCUTORY ORDER OF SUSPENSION

On the 27th day of September 2011, the above-styled and numbered 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 disciplinary counsel from the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel and announced ready. Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, appeared and announced ready. All issues of fact as well as all questions 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 is of the opinion that Petitioner is entitled to entry of the following findings and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, whose State Bar Card number is 00793244, is licensed and authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about March 25, 2010, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Count One - Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Counts Two through Twelve – Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Count Thirteen - Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property; Counts Fourteen through Nineteen – Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property in Cause No. H-10-185, styled *United States of America v. Vincent Wallace Aldridge, Tori Elyse*

Aldridge and Gilbert Barry Isgar, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.

- (3) On or about July 26, 2011, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Case No. 4:10CR00185-001, styled *United States of America v. Vincent Wallace Aldridge*, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Count 1 – Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Counts 2 through 12 – Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Count 13 - Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property; and Counts 14 through 19 – Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property and was committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of sixty-three (63) months and ordered upon release from imprisonment to be on supervised release for three (3) years, ordered to pay an assessment of \$1,900.00 and a fine of \$891,000.00.
- (4) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, is the same person as the Vincent Wallace Aldridge who is the subject of the Aldridge criminal case described above.
- (5) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction.

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. Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 7.08(g) (“TRDP”);
- (2) Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, having been convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud; Aiding and Abetting Wire Fraud; Conspiracy to Engage in Monetary Transaction in Criminally Derived Property; and Aiding and Abetting Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Criminally Derived Property, 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(Z).
- (4) Having been convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed said conviction, Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, should have his

license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeal of his criminal conviction. TRDP 8.04.

- (5) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, State Bar Card No. 00793244, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in the State of Texas effective immediately the date of this order and continuing hereafter until further order or judgment of this Board.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, 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, Vincent W. Aldridge, 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, Vincent W. Aldridge, 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.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Vincent W. Aldridge, shall immediately notify each of his current clients and opposing counsel, 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, if any, to those respective clients or former clients 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 and opposing counsel 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 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, 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, Vincent W. Aldridge, 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. *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 29th day of September 2011.



CHAIR PRESIDING