



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

**IN THE MATTER OF
THELMA M. ANDERSON
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24091728**

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§

CAUSE NO. 71154

JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

On July 31, 2026, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals considered the Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment filed by Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, in the above-captioned compulsory discipline case. Petitioner appeared by attorney and announced ready. Thelma M. Anderson, Respondent, despite being duly notified of the hearing, failed to appear. All questions of fact and all issues 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 makes the following findings, conclusions, and orders:

- (1) On March 5, 2025, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, issued a Judgment in a Criminal Case in Cause No. 3:24-CR-00191-K(1), styled *United States of America v. Thelma Marshall Anderson*, reflecting that Respondent pleaded guilty to Count 1 of the three-count Indictment filed on May 21, 2024, was adjudicated guilty of Wire Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, and was sentenced to probation for a term of four (4) years, with Additional Special Conditions of Probation including the payment of restitution to the U.S. Small Business Administration in the amount of \$20,871.00.
- (2) Respondent appealed her criminal conviction and sentence.
- (3) The Board of Disciplinary Appeals issued an Interlocutory Order of Suspension on March 2, 2026, finding that Respondent, having been found guilty of Wire Fraud in

violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, has been convicted of an Intentional Crime as defined by Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 1.06(V) and a Serious Crime as defined by Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 1.06(GG).

- (4) Through orders issued June 17, 2026, and July 21, 2026, the Board ordered that the hearing set for July 31, 2026, would be limited to the issue of how the Board should exercise its discretion under Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05 and 8.06 to either disbar the Respondent or to suspend the Respondent's law license for the remaining term of criminal probation. *See In re Caballero*, 272 S.W.3d 595 (Tex. 2008).
- (5) On April 20, 2026, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit issued a Judgment in the matter styled *United States of America v. Thelma Marshall Anderson*, No. 25-10467, ordering that the appeal was dismissed as frivolous. The Fifth Circuit then issued that Judgment as the mandate on May 11, 2026.
- (6) Respondent was served the Motion for Entry of Judgment by email on May 27, 2026, in accordance with Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 21a. Respondent responded by email that same day, indicating receipt of the Motion.
- (7) On May 27, 2026, Respondent filed a *Motion to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255* in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, in the matter styled *United States of America v. Thelma Marshall Anderson*, Criminal Case No. 3:24-cr-00191-K, Civil case 3:26-cv-01717-K, a collateral proceeding which remains pending.
- (8) Throughout this proceeding, Respondent has filed multiple motions seeking to stay or abate the hearing set for July 31, 2026, but she has never addressed the issue of whether disbarment or suspension is appropriate under the factors expressed by the Board in *In re Isassi*, BODA Case No. 57699, 2017 WL 2293005 (May 8, 2017), or any other framework for the Board's exercise of discretion.

Conclusions of Law. Based upon the foregoing findings of fact, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals makes the following conclusions of law:

- (1) This Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter upon final decision in the direct appeal of the criminal conviction. TEX. RULES DISCIPLINARY P. R. 8.04-.06; BODA INTERNAL PROCEDURAL RULE 6.02(a).
- (2) As announced at the outset of the July 31, 2026, hearing in this case, Respondent's *Amended Emergency Motion for Continuance and Motion for Reconsideration of Denial* is **DENIED**.

- (3) Respondent was served notice of the Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment and the hearing setting as required by Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05.
- (4) As the Board concluded in an order issued June 17, 2026, Respondent's conviction of Wire Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 is final for purposes of compulsory discipline. BODA INTERNAL PROCEDURAL RULE 6.02(a).
- (5) The Board declines to exercise discretion to suspend Respondent from the practice of law, and Petitioner's Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment shall be granted.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, State Bar Card No. 24091728, be and is hereby **DISBARRED** from the practice of law in the State of Texas and her license to practice law in this state be and is hereby revoked.

It is further **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, is prohibited from practicing law in Texas, holding herself 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 herself out to others or using her name, in any manner, including through media and social media, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney," "counselor at law," "Esquire," "Esq." or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall 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, if any, in which Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, has any legal matter pending, if any, of her 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 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, Thelma M. Anderson, shall file with the State Bar of Texas, Statewide Compliance Monitor, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, an affidavit stating that Respondent has notified 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 of the terms of this judgment, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing in that court or tribunal.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall notify each of her current clients and opposing counsel, if any, in writing, of her disbarment. In addition to such notification, Respondent is **ORDERED** to return all files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and property which are in her possession or control but which belong to current or former clients, if any, to those respective clients or former clients within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment.

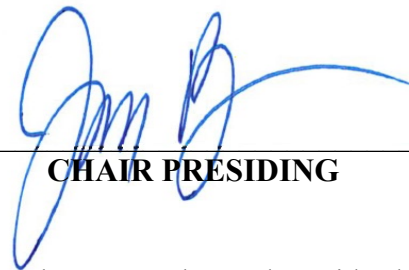
It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall file with the State Bar of Texas, Statewide Compliance Monitor, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of Respondent's disbarment and that all files, papers, monies, and other property belonging to all current 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 such inability to return to said client any file, paper, money, or other property.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Thelma M. Anderson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall surrender her 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, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

It is further **ORDERED** that this Judgment of Disbarment shall be made a matter of public record and notice of this judgment shall be published in the *Texas Bar Journal*.

Signed this 31st day of July 2026.



CHAIR PRESIDING

Board members Arthur D'Andrea, Scott Fredricks, Robert Henneke, and David Iglesias did not participate in this decision.