



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

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRICIA STEELE BOUTROS  
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24045535**

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§

**CAUSE NO. 66335**

**JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT**

On the 27th day of January 2023, the above-styled and numbered disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, appeared by attorney and announced ready. Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, although duly cited to appear, failed to appear and wholly made default. 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 has determined that Petitioner is entitled to entry of the following findings, conclusions, and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, State Bar Card Number 24045535, is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about October 24, 2019, Respondent was charged by Criminal Complaint with Wire Fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, and Aggravated Identity Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A, in Magistrate No. 1:19-mj-00264-GMH, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.
- (3) On or about October 24, 2019, Respondent was charged by Criminal Complaint with Wire Fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, and Aggravated Identity Theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A, in Cause No. 1:20-cr-00082-APM, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia

- (4) On or about April 29, 2020, Respondent was charged by Information with Count One Bank Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344(1), 1344(2), in Magistrate No. 19-mj-00264, Cause No. 1:20-cr-00082-APM, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.
- (5) On or about October 7, 2020, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Cause No. 1:20-cr-00082-APM, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, wherein Respondent pleaded guilty to Count 1 of the Information, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344(1), 1344(2). The judgment shows the “date of imposition of judgment” as October 5, 2020, but the judge’s signature was dated October 7, 2020. Respondent was committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of thirty (30) months as to Count 1. The court made the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:

[P]lacement at FPC Alderson. The Court also recommends placement in the following programs: revolve program, female integrated treatment (FIT) program, and residential drug abuse program (RDAP). . . . Upon release from imprisonment, [Respondent] will be on supervised release for a term of sixty (60) months on Count 1.

Respondent was further ordered to pay penalties of an assessment in the amount of \$100.00.

- (6) On or about November 12, 2020, a Memorandum Opinion and Order was entered in Cause No. 1:20-cr-00082-APM, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, wherein Respondent was ordered in pertinent part:

[Respondent] is hereby ordered to pay restitution totaling \$2.1 million to the following victims in the bracketed amounts: Blue Pay (\$598,965), BB&T (\$378,545), Plooto, Inc. (\$186,270), Coin Café (\$31,675), P.C. (\$42,000), and JPMC (\$862,545). In addition, [Respondent] shall forfeit a money judgment in the amount of \$1,603,945.59 (\$2.1 million - \$496,054.41). The Judgment entered on October 5, 2020, shall be amended to reflect these sums.

- (7) On or about November 17, 2020, an Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Cause No. 1:20-cr-00082-APM, styled *United States of America v. Tricia Steele Boutros*, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, wherein Respondent pleaded guilty to Count 1 of the

Information, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344(1), 1344(2). The defendant was committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of thirty (30) months as to Count 1. The court made the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:

[P]lacement at FPC Alderson. The Court also recommends placement in the following programs: revolve program, female integrated treatment (FIT) program, and residential drug abuse program (RDAP). . . . Upon release from imprisonment, [Respondent] will be on supervised release for a term of sixty (60) months on Count 1.

Respondent was further ordered to pay penalties of an assessment in the amount of \$100.00, and restitution in the amount of \$2,100,000.00.

- (8) Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, is the same person as the Tricia Steele Boutros who is the subject of the Amended Judgment described above.

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

- (1) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. TEX. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 7.08(G).
- (2) Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, having pleaded guilty to and been convicted of the offense listed in findings (5) through (7) above, has been convicted for purposes of Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.04 of an Intentional Crime as defined by Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 1.06(V).
- (3) Respondent has also been convicted of a Serious Crime as defined by Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 1.06(GG).
- (4) The conviction is final.
- (5) Compulsory discipline is warranted in this case. TEX. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 8.05.
- (6) Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, shall be disbarred pursuant to Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.06.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, State Bar Card No. 24045535, be and hereby is DISBARRED from the practice of law in the State of Texas and her license to practice law in this state be and hereby is revoked.

It is further **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, is prohibited from practicing law in Texas, holding herself 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 herself out to others or using her name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words “attorney at law,” “attorney,” “counselor at law,” or “lawyer.”

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, shall immediately notify each of her current clients, if any, in writing of this disbarment. In addition to such notification, Respondent is **ORDERED** to return any files, papers, unearned monies, and 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 judgment.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, 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 signing of this judgment by the Board, an affidavit stating that all current clients have been notified of Respondent’s disbarment and that all files, papers, monies, and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned as ordered herein. If Respondent should be unable to return any file, papers, monies, or other property requested by 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 her inability to return said client any file, paper, money, or other property.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent shall, on or before thirty (30) days from the signing of this judgment by the Board, 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 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.

Respondent is further **ORDERED** to 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 signing of this judgment by the Board, an affidavit stating that each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, administrative judge or officer, and chief justice has received written notice of the terms of this judgment.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tricia Steele Boutros, immediately surrender her Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

It is further **ORDERED** that a certified copy of the First Amended Petition for Compulsory Discipline on file herein, along with a copy of this Judgment, be sent to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

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

Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Levi H', followed by a long horizontal line.

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**CHAIR PRESIDING**