

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
WILLIAM A. COHN,
STATE BAR CARD NO. 04512980**

§
§
§

CAUSE NO. 64478

AGREED JUDGMENT OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On the 2nd day of October 2020, the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and Respondent appeared in person as indicated by their respective signatures below and announced that they agree to the findings of fact, conclusions of law and orders set forth below. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals, having reviewed the file and in consideration of the agreement of the parties, 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, William A. Cohn, whose State Bar Card number is 04512980, is licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas and authorized to practice law in the State of Texas;
- (2) On or about May 8, 2019, a Judgment of the Hearing Panel was entered in Disciplinary District IX of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in a matter styled, *In Re: William Allan Cohn, BPR #005873, Respondent, an Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee (Shelby County)*, Docket No. 2018-2875-9-AJ.
- (3) On or about October 22, 2019, an Order of Enforcement was entered in the Supreme Court of Tennessee at Nashville in a matter styled, *In Re: William Allan Cohn, BPR #005873, An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee (Shelby County)*, File No. M2019-01855-BAR-BP, BOPR No. 2018-2875-9-AJ, that states in pertinent part as follows:

...Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.4, William Allan Cohn, is hereby Publicly Censured...

- (4) In the Judgment of the Hearing Panel, the Panel found that after completing the necessary pleadings in a divorce matter, his client's wife refused to sign the documents. Respondent was then terminated by his client. Respondent believed that the fee agreement entitled him to additional fees, and he used the cost deposit to cover the additional fees. No costs had been incurred during the course of the representation, and the cost deposit should have remained his IOLTA account until they were refunded to the client. The Hearing Panel further found that Respondent violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15(c) (safekeeping property and funds) and 8.4(a) (misconduct).
- (5) Respondent, William A. Cohn, is the same person as the William Allan Cohn, who is the subject of the Order of Enforcement entered by the State of Supreme Court of Tennessee; and
- (6) The Order of Enforcement entered by the Supreme Court of Tennessee is final.

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. Rule 7.08(H), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure;
- (2) Reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the Supreme Court of Tennessee is warranted in this case.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, William A. Cohn, State Bar Card No. 04512980, is hereby PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED as an attorney at law in the State of Texas.

Signed this 2nd day of October 2020.

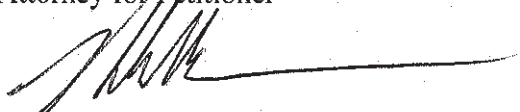


CHAIR PRESIDING
BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Amanda M. Kates
State Bar No. 24075987
Attorney for Petitioner



William A. Cohn
State Bar No. 04512980
Respondent