



FILED

Sep 21 2026

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

THE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS
Appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
ROSELYN NYAMBURA	§	CAUSE NO. 73797
COLEMAN	§	
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24124029	§	

**RESPONDENT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER TO PETITION FOR COMPULSORY
DISCIPLINE**

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS:

Respondent, Roselyn Nyambura Coleman ("Respondent"), files this Original Answer to the Commission for Lawyer Discipline's Petition for Compulsory Discipline ("Petitioner") and respectfully shows:

I. PARTIES

The Commission for Lawyer Discipline (hereinafter referred to as the "Petitioner") is represented by Assistant Disciplinary Counsel Amanda Kates, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, PO Box 12487, Austin, Texas, 78711, amanda.kates@texasbar.com.

Roselyn Nyambura Coleman ("Respondent") is represented by Kerry Bloodsaw, Bertolino LLP, 823 Congress Ave, Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78701, kbloodsaw@bertolinolaw.com, craza@bertolinolaw.com.

**II. DENIALS AND ADMISSIONS TO ALLEGATIONS WITHIN
PETITION**

1. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 1 and admits that the Petitioner has jurisdiction over this matter.

2. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 2.
3. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 3.
4. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 4.
5. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 5.
6. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 6.
7. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 7.
8. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 8.
9. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 9.
10. Respondent admits to the allegations in Paragraph 10.
11. Although Respondent admits to these allegations and takes responsibility for her past conduct Respondent wishes Petitioner to know that during the time of the allegations Respondent was suffering a mental health crisis. Prior to the underlying events related to the deferred adjudication, Respondent had entered into a manic state and had not slept for over 5 days.

Respondent has suffered from depression, anxiety, ADHD and bipolar disorder for a majority of her adult life and was formally diagnosed in 2022. Since 2022, Respondent had been hospitalized 6 times due to severe symptoms stemming from these diagnoses. However, Respondent never acted in such a manner as she did regarding this incident before and feels that this was an isolated yet critical event.

Prior to the incident Respondent had lost her job and was severely suffering, initiating this manic episode to which she set a fire in her residence. She was pulled from her residence by emergency services and immediately entered treatment. She was admitted for 2 weeks and then discharged. However, she was quickly readmitted due to necessary changes to her medication regiment. She was later discharged again in June of 2025.

During the incident, she was the only person living in the home. No one was hurt and the only damage was to Respondent's own personal property. At the time of the fire, Respondent was not following any medication regiment.

Since her discharge in June of 2025, Respondent has been compliant with her updated medication regiment. She sees her psychiatrist every month where they discuss her progress and address any updates or changes needed to her medication regiment. She is also working with her family and has a strong support system in place. Respondent is aware that she needs to focus on her mental and physical health along with allowing support from those in her life that love her. She needs to not suffer in silence.

As noted above, the triggering event inducing this manic state was Respondent losing her job with a transactional law firm. She had been in her position with the firm for about a year. It was a temporary position, and she was let go after a full-time employee came back from paternity leave. Although Respondent knew the position was temporary, she was hopeful that it would turn into a full-time position. When that offer was not extended it triggered her diagnoses to worsen.

Since 2022, Respondent has been hospitalized 6 times, including the 2 admissions right after the fire. However, in general over Respondent's time as a license holder, she has been able to work and practice in a safe and competent manner. Not until this event did Respondent's mental health severely impact her work-life or her ability to practice safely. Although it is important to note that at the time of the event, Respondent was not actively employed nor practicing law in any capacity.

Since admitting guilt and entering into her deferred adjudication Respondent has been compliant with all her probationary conditions. She has been evaluated and is awaiting final determination on what program is appropriate for her current condition. She is working to complete her community services hours and her required programs which include anger management and substance abuse courses. She is monitored daily, including mandatory check-ins and random drug and alcohol screens. At this point Respondent is in full compliance with all terms and has not had a positive screen or missed a daily check-in. Respondent has never suffered from an alcohol or substance abuse disorder and does not expect any issues in completing her 7 years on probation.

Respondent wishes Petitioner to know that although she has only been licensed since June of 2021, she loves the practice of law and fully respects and appreciates the duties and responsibility that come with holding a bar license in Texas. Respondent would never, in full health, cause any damage to property or cause harm or a risk of harm to any person. Notwithstanding, Respondent takes full accountability for her actions and understands that it is her responsibility to maintain her mental health. She is the only one who can know when her mental health is at risk. Respondent accepts that she needed to

reach out for help sooner and should not have allowed herself to fall into such a dangerous manic state.

Nevertheless, this incident and subsequent deferred adjudication was an isolated incident and nothing like this has ever occurred before in Respondent's life, specifically since 2021 and since obtaining licensure in Texas. This series of events has demonstrated to Respondent that she needs to maintain her mental health, and she needs to be proactive not reactive when triggers occur. At this time, she is managing her mental health with the support of her healthcare providers and is relying on her family and friends for support.

Respondent therefore argues that under the circumstances, disbarment is not warranted, fair or necessary. Pursuant to Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals ("BODA") has the authority to issue a suspension not a disbarment as Rule 8.06 applies which states in part, "if an attorney's sentence upon conviction of a serious crime is fully probated or if an attorney receives probation through deferred adjudication in connection with a serious crime, the attorney's license to practice law *shall* be suspended during the term of probation". See Tex. R. Disciplinary Procedure 8.06. Based on this language Respondent argues that a suspension not disbarment be issued.

V. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Respondent respectfully requests that the BODA issue the suspension and grant Respondent all other and further relief, at law or in equity, to which Respondent may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

BERTOLINO LLP

By: /s/ Kerry Bloodsaw

Kerry Bloodsaw

823 Congress Avenue

Suite 300

Austin, Tx 78701

Telephone: (512) 476-5757

Email: kbloodsaw@bertolinolaw.com

Attorney for Respondent

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on 9.21.2026, a true and correct copy of the Respondent's Original Answer to Petition for Compulsory Discipline has been served on the following individual at the location and in the in the manner indicated below:

Jenny Hodgkins
BODA
Supremem Court of Texas
PO Box 12426
Austin, Texas 78711

Via e-filing filing@txboda.org

Amanda M. Kates
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel
P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
Phone: 512-427-1650
Fax: 512-427-4253
Email: amanda.kates@texasbar.com

Via email amanda.kates@texasbar.com