



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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
PATRICK H. CORDERO, JR.	§	CAUSE NO. 49554
STATE BAR CARD NO. 00787286	§	

JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On the 27th day of January 2012, 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 attorney and announced ready. Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., appeared in person and by attorney 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, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., State Bar Card Number 00787286, is licensed and authorized to practice law in the State of Texas by the Supreme Court of Texas.

- (2) On or about January 26, 2011, Patrick Cordero, was charged by Indictment with Wire Fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C § 1343, in Case No. MO11CR0060, styled *United States of America v. Marcus Jacob Rosenberger and Patrick Cordero*, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Midland-Odessa Division.

- (3) On or about July 15, 2011, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Case No. 7:11-CR-060-02 RAJ, styled *United States of America v. Patrick Cordero*, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Midland Division, wherein Respondent pled guilty to Aiding and Abetting in Wire Fraud in violation of 18 USC § 1343 and 18 U.S.C. § 2 and was placed on probation for a term of five (5) years. As special conditions of probation, Respondent was ordered to participate in the Home Confinement Program with Electronic Monitoring for a period of one (1) year and further ordered to complete 300 hours of community service. Respondent was also ordered to pay an assessment of \$100.00, a fine of \$10,000.00, restitution of \$170,101.80 and ordered to forfeit a money judgment to the United States in the amount of \$245,718.75.
- (4) Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., is the same person as the Patrick Cordero, who is the subject of the Judgment in a Criminal Case described above.
- (5) Respondent's criminal sentence is fully probated.
- (6) Respondent has taken responsibility for his conduct and has cooperated with federal authorities during the course of his criminal trial and with the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel during these proceedings.
- (7) Respondent's continued practice of law after completion of his criminal sentence does not pose a threat to the public.
- (8) Respondent is in compliance with all the terms and conditions of his criminal probation.

Conclusions of Law. Based upon the foregoing 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. 7.08(G) ("TRDP").
- (2) Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., has been convicted for purposes of TRDP 8.04 of an Intentional Crime as defined by TRDP 1.06(T). Said crime is also a Serious Crime as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (3) Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., should be suspended for the term of his criminal probation as originally assessed and, in the event that the above-described criminal probation of Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., is revoked, Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., should be disbarred. TRDP

8.06.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., State Bar Card No. 00787286, be and he is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in the State of Texas and his license to practice law in the State of Texas for a period beginning effective the date of entry of this judgment and ending July 14, 2016.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., during said suspension is prohibited 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 prior to the date of this Judgment, 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 or bar card number, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney," "counselor," or "lawyer."

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., not later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Judgment shall notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court, if any, in which Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., 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, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., 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 Judgment. 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 that all current clients 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. 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 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 clients 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, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., immediately surrender his 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, in the event that the above-described criminal probation of Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., is revoked, Respondent, Patrick H. Cordero, Jr., the Chief Disciplinary Counsel shall file a motion for disbarment pursuant to TRDP 8.06 supported by certified copies of court documents showing that such criminal probation has been revoked. If, after notice and hearing, if necessary, the Board finds that Respondent's probation has been revoked, it

shall issue a final judgment of disbarment.

Signed this 30th day of January 2012.



VICE CHAIR PRESIDING

Board Chair W. Clark Lea recused