

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

**ORIGINAL**

IN THE MATTER OF  
RONALD DEWAYNE CROSS  
STATE BAR CARD NO. 00787305

§  
§  
§

CAUSE NO. 43275

FILED
By: _____
DEC 04 2008
Board of Disciplinary Appeals appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas

**AGREED JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION**

On this day, the above-styled and numbered compulsory disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and Respondent appeared through his attorney of record 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, Ronald Dewayne Cross, whose State Bar Card number is 00787305, is currently licensed but not authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law.
- (2) On or about August 10, 2005, Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, was the subject of a Complaint filed in Cause No. CR05-1430, styled *The State of Texas v. Ronald Dewayne Cross*, in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, on the following charge: Theft by Check – at least \$20.00 under \$500.00.
- (3) On or about July 7, 2008, a document entitled Written Plea Admonishments was signed wherein, Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, pled guilty to Theft by Check – at least \$20.00 under \$500.00, in Cause Number CR05-1430 styled, *The State of Texas v. Ronald Dewayne Cross*, in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, (hereinafter called the “Cross” criminal case).

- (4) On about July 7, 2008, a Deferred Adjudication Order was entered in Cause Number CR05-1430 styled, *The State of Texas v. Ronald Dewayne Cross*, in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, wherein Respondent pled No Contest to the offense of Theft of Property over \$20 under \$500 by Check and was sentenced to six (6) months Deferred Adjudication beginning July 7, 2008, ordered to pay a fine in the amount of \$200.00, costs in the amount of \$265.00 and restitution in the amount of \$247.00.
- (5) Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, is the same person as the Ronald Dewayne Cross who is the subject of the Cross criminal case described above.

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(G), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure;
- (2) Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, has been placed on deferred adjudication probation for an intentional crime for purposes of Rule 8.04, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Theft by Check is an intentional crime as defined by Rule 1.06(T), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Such crime is as well a serious crime as defined by Rule 1.06(Z), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.
- (3) Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, should be suspended for the term of his criminal probation as originally assessed.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, State Bar Card No. 00787305, be and is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in Texas and his license to practice law in the State of Texas is hereby SUSPENDED for a period beginning effective the date of entry of this judgment and ending January 6, 2009.

It is further ORDERED, pursuant to Rule 8.06, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, that the suspension ordered herein shall be conditioned upon the Respondent satisfactorily completing the terms of the criminal probation. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals retains jurisdiction in this matter during the full term of suspension to determine whether the Respondent has satisfactorily

completed the term of the criminal probation.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, 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, appearing as counsel or in any representative capacity in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body, or holding himself out to others or using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney," "counselor," or "lawyer."

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, not later than thirty (30) days 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, Ronald Dewayne Cross, 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 Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, shall immediately notify each of his current clients, 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 on which this Judgment is signed by the Board. Respondent is further ORDERED to file with this Board, 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 said affidavit and copies of all notification letters to clients, to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Ronald Dewayne Cross, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

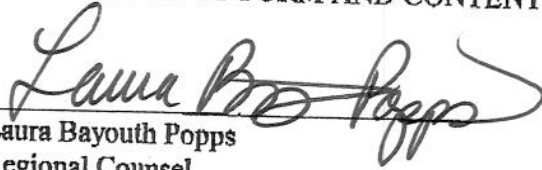
It is further ORDERED that a certified copy of the Petition for Compulsory Discipline on file herein, along with a copy of this Judgment, be sent to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that this AGREED JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION shall be made a matter of public record and be published in the Texas Bar Journal.

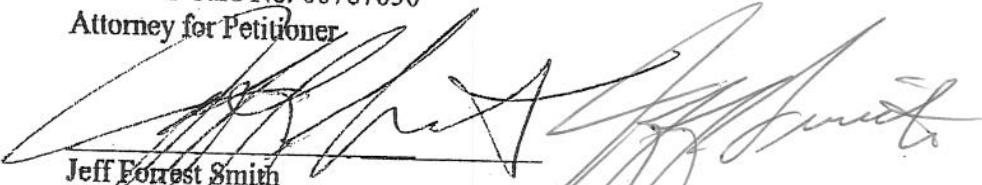
Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008.

Thomas E. Petty  
Chairman Presiding  
Board of Disciplinary Appeals

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:



Laura Bayouth Popp  
Regional Counsel  
State Bar Card No. 00787050  
Attorney for Petitioner



Jeff Forrest Smith  
State Bar Card No. 18623800  
Attorney for Respondent



Ronald Dewayne Cross  
State Bar Card No. 00787305  
Respondent