

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
LUCY R. EDWARDS	§	CAUSE NO. 46777
STATE BAR CARD NO. 06473000	§	

DEFAULT JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

On the 1st day of July 2011, 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 counsel from the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel and announced ready. Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, although duly cited to appear and having notice of the hearing, failed to answer or 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 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, Lucy R. Edwards, State Bar Card Number 06473000, is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas by the Supreme Court of Texas, having been administratively suspended for failure to comply with MCLE requirements in 1987.
- (2) On or about March 11, 2010, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals signed its Opinion disbaring respondent from the practice of law in a matter styled: Nos. 06-BG-1480 & 07-BG-608, *In Re Lucy R. Edwards, Respondent*. The Opinion, adopting the findings of the Report and Recommendation of the Board on Professional Responsibility, found that Lucy Edwards intentionally or recklessly misappropriated \$2,000 that her client, Mark Green, had entrusted to her, in violation of D.C. Rule of Professional Conduct (“DCRPC”) 1.15(a)(misappropriation of client funds); failed to

return the money to Mr. Green and render an accounting, in violation of DCRPC's 1.15(b)(failure to deliver funds) and 1.16(d)(failure to render an accounting); failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority in violation of DCRPC 8.1(b); failed to comply with an order of the Board in violation of D.C. Bar R. XI, Sec. 2(b)(3); and, in doing so, seriously interfered with the administration of justice in violation of DCRPC 8.4(d). In a second matter, the Opinion found that Lucy Edwards failed to locate and file the original Will she had drafted on behalf of her client, William Dickerson, for years after his death, in violation of DCRPC's 1.1(b) (failure to serve a client with skill and care commensurate with that generally afforded to clients by other lawyers in similar matters) and 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct that seriously interferes with the administration of justice). The Opinion holds that Lucy Edwards' conduct merits disbarment in the first matter and 30 days of active suspension in the second matter.

- (3) Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, is the same person as the Lucy R. Edwards who is the subject of the Opinion described above.
- (4) The District of Columbia Court of Appeals denied Respondent's motion for rehearing *per curiam* on or about September 10, 2010, and the Opinion imposing disbarment is final.
- (5) BODA issued its show cause order with hearing notice on May 13, 2011, and the Third Amended Petition for Reciprocal Discipline and Show Cause Order were personally served on Respondent by a duly authorized process server on May 21, 2011.
- (6) The affidavit of service was filed with BODA on June 9, 2011.
- (7) As of the date of the hearing, Respondent had not answered or appeared.

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. Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 7.08(H);
- (2) Reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals is warranted in this case.
- (3) Respondent should be disbarred.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, State Bar Card No. 06473000, be, and she is hereby, DISBARRED from the practice of law in the State of Texas and her license to practice law in this state be, and is hereby, revoked.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, is hereafter permanently prohibited, effective immediately, from practicing law in Texas, holding herself out as an attorney at law, performing any legal service for others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services, appearing as counsel in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body, or holding herself out to others or using her name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney," "counselor," or "lawyer."

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, shall notify in writing, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, has any legal matter pending, if any, of her disbarment, 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, Lucy R. Edwards, shall immediately notify each of her current clients, if any, in writing, of her disbarment. 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 her 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 the Statewide Compliance Monitor, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients have been notified of his disbarment 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 her 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 the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Lucy R. Edwards, immediately surrender her 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.

Signed this 6th day of July 2011.



CHAIR PRESIDING