

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

IN THE MATTER OF

\$
WILLIAM O. GRIMSINGER, JR. \$
STATE BAR CARD NO. 00792151

\$

## JUDGMENT REVOKING PROBATION AND ACTIVELY SUSPENDING RESPONDENT FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW

On the 26th day of January, 2024, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals heard the Petition for Revocation of Probation filed by Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline of the State Bar of Texas against Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., State Bar No. 00792151. Petitioner appeared by attorney and announced ready. Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., although properly served with the Petition for Revocation, failed to appear. Having considered the pleadings on file, having received evidence, and having heard the argument of counsel, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals has determined that Petitioner is entitled to entry of the following findings, conclusions, and orders:

## Findings of Fact. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals finds that:

- 1) Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., whose State Bar Card number is 00792151, is currently licensed but not authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law.
- 2) Respondent was served with the Petition for Revocation of Probation and hearing notice in this cause by personal service on October 3, 2023. The affidavit of service was filed with the Board on October 13, 2023.
- 3) On May 11, 2022, and June 8, 2022, Investigatory Panel 4-6 of the District 4 Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas conducted investigatory hearings involving two complaints against Respondent.

- 4) As a result of the investigatory hearings, Petitioner and Respondent agreed to findings of fact and a sanction, reflected in the Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension, in the case styled *In the Matter of William O. Grimsinger, Jr.*, Case Nos. 202105541 & 202106054, issued July 8, 2022. Respondent signed the Agreed Judgment, agreeing to its form and substance.
- 5) The Agreed reflects findings that Respondent committed violations of Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(a), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.04(a)(11).
- 6) Under the Agreed Judgment, Respondent was suspended for three (3) years, with the suspension fully probated, beginning August 1, 2022, and ending July 31, 2025. The Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension conditioned Respondent's probation on the following terms, in pertinent part:
  - A. Respondent shall pay restitution to Ronald Duane Thomas in the amount of \$7,500.00.
  - B. Respondent shall pay restitution to Randy Sullivan in the amount of \$15,000.00.
  - C. Respondent shall make contact with the Texas Lawyers' Assistance Program (TLAP) at its hotline number, 800-343-8527, no later than seven (7) days after receipt of a copy of this judgment to inquire as to services and referrals offered by that program to aid in Respondent's rehabilitation.
  - D. Respondent shall submit to monitoring of his law practice for a period of one year by an attorney monitor acceptable to the State Bar of Texas.
  - E. Respondent shall make contact with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Compliance Monitor at (877) 953-5535, ext. 1334 and Special Programs Coordinator at (877) 953-5535, ext. 1323, not later than seven (7) days after receipt of a copy of this judgment to coordinate Respondent's compliance.
- 7) Respondent violated the above terms of probation in the following manner:
  - A. Respondent failed to pay Ronald Duane Thomas \$4,875.00 in restitution due on or before January 1, 2024.
  - B. Respondent failed to pay Randy Sullivan \$4,875.00 in restitution due on or before January 1, 2024.
  - C. Respondent failed to make contact with the Texas Lawyers'

Assistance Program (TLAP) within seven (7) days after receipt of the executed Agreed Judgment.

- D. Respondent failed to submit to monitoring of his law practice for a period of one year by an attorney monitor acceptable to the State Bar of Texas.
- E. Respondent failed to make contact with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel Office's Compliance Monitor within seven (7) days after receipt of the executed Agreed Judgment.

**Conclusions of Law**. Based upon the foregoing, undisputed findings of fact, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals makes the following conclusions of law:

- 1) This Board has exclusive jurisdiction to hear a petition to revoke a probated suspension from the practice of law imposed under Part II of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, during the full term of suspension, including the probationary period. Tex. Rules Disciplinary P. R. 2.22; *In re State Bar of Tex.*, 113 S.W.3d 730, 733 (Tex. 2003).
- 2) Respondent has violated the terms and conditions of the Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension signed on July 8, 2022, in Cause Nos. 202105541 & 202106054.
- 3) Respondent's probation under the Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension should be revoked.
- 4) Respondent should be actively suspended from the practice of law for the full three-year term of the suspension as originally imposed by the Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension, without credit for any probationary time served. Tex. Rules Disciplinary P. R. 2.22.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that the probation for Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., State Bar No. 00792151, imposed by the above-referenced Agreed Judgment of Probated Suspension, be and hereby is REVOKED, and Respondent be and hereby is actively **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law in the State of Texas for a period of three (3) years, effective immediately upon the date this judgment is signed and extending through <u>January 30, 2027</u>.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that Respondent, William O.

Grimsinger, 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, 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 at law,"

"attorney," "counselor at law," "esquire," "Esq.," or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that nothing in this Judgment Revoking Probation and Actively

Suspending Respondent from the Practice of Law shall relieve Respondent, William O.

Grimsinger, Jr., of any outstanding requirements under the Agreed Judgment of Probated

Suspension referenced above as to payment of restitution to Ronald Duane Thomas or Randy

Sullivan. Any failure to comply may be independent grounds for discipline as allowed under the

Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct and Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., 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, William O. Grimsinger, 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 Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O.

Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

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It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, 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 or control but

which belong to current or former clients, if any, to those respective clients or former clients, or to

another attorney designated by such client of former client, within thirty (30) days of the date of

this Judgment.

Respondent, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., is further **ORDERED** to file with Statewide

Compliance Monitor, Office of the Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487,

Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), 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 other property 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 further **ORDERED** to mail a copy 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, William O. Grimsinger, Jr., shall immediately

surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance

Monitor, Office of the Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, for transmittal to the Clerk of the

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Supreme Court of Texas, or file an affidavit stating that he is no longer in possession of his Texas

law license and cannot surrender it.

It is further **ORDERED** that this Judgment Revoking Probation and Actively Suspending

Respondent from the Practice of Law shall be made a matter of public record and that notice of

this disciplinary action shall be published in the Texas Bar Journal.

SIGNED this 31st day of January 2024.

**CHAIR PRESIDING**