

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

IN THE MATTER OF§DONALD W. HILL§CAUSE NO. 46727State Bar of Texas Card No. 09628400§

## JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2014, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals considered the Motion for

Entry of Judgment of Disbarment filed in the above case by Petitioner, Commission for Lawyer

Discipline of the State Bar of Texas, against Respondent, Donald W. Hill. The Board finds that:

- (1) It has continuing jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure 8.05 ("TRDP");
- (2) The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed Respondent Donald W. Hill's criminal conviction in Cause No. 10-10211 and issued its Mandate indicating that the decision was final on or about August 26, 2013;
- (3) The Supreme Court of the United States denied Respondent's Petition for a Writ of Certiorari in Cause No. 13-7191 on March 10, 2014;
- Petitioner filed its Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment on or about June 6, 2014, and that Respondent was personally served with same by a Boyd County Deputy Sheriff on June 19, 2014 in accordance with TRDP 8.05;
- (5) Respondent's conviction for the commission of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T), for which he was sentenced in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, has become final and is not subject to further direct appeal;
- (6) Respondent objected to entry of final judgment on July 17, 2014;
- (7) Respondent was sentenced to a term of imprisonment and therefore his

Judgment of Disbarment Donald W. Hill BODA No. 46727 Page 1 of 5 criminal sentence is not fully probated;

(8) Respondent having been convicted of Intentional Crimes and been sentenced to imprisonment and said conviction being final for purposes of compulsory discipline, Petitioner's Motion for Entry of Judgment of Disbarment should be granted.

## **Interlocutory Suspension**

On the 18th day of October 2010, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an Agreed

Interlocutory Order of Suspension, which included the following findings of fact and conclusions of

law:

- (1) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, whose State Bar Card number is 09628400, is licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law but is not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2)On or about September 27, 2007, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Extortion; Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Deprivation of Honest Services by Wire Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering; and Tax Evasion, in Cause No. 3:07CR289-R, styled United States of America v. Donald W. Hill (01) a/k/a "Don Hill", D'Angelo Lee (02), Sheila Farrington (03) a/k/a "Sheila Hill", Brian L. Potashnik (04), Cheryl L. Potashnik (05) a/k/a "Cheryl L. Geiser", Gladys E. Hodge (06) a/k/a "Terri Hodge", Darren L. Reagan (07) a/k/a "Dr. Darren L. Reagan", Allen J. McGill (08), Jibreel A. Rashad (09) a/k/a "Vernon Cooks, Jr.", Rickey E. Robertson (10) a/k/a "Rick Robertson", Andrea L. Spencer (11) a/k/a "Toni Fisher" and "Toni Thomas", Ronald W. Slovacek (12) a/k/a "Ron Slovacek", Kevin J. Dean (13), John J. Lewis (14), in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division.
- (3) On or about March 23, 2010, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in Case No. 3:07-CR-289-M(01), styled United States of America v. Donald W. Hill a/k/a Don Hill, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Count 10 Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 11 Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 18 U.S.C.

§§ 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 12 - Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 8 U.S.C. §§ 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 15 - Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation of U.S.C. § 1951, Count 16 - Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1951 & 2, and Count 19 -Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h), and was sentenced to two-hundred and sixteen (216) months in the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be followed by three (3) years of supervised release upon release from imprisonment, ordered to pay \$112,500 in restitution and a fine in the amount of \$600.

- (4) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, is the same person as the Donald W. Hill who is the subject of the Hill criminal case described above.
- (5) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction.
- (6) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Rule 7.08(G), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.
- (7) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, having been convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation; Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting; and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).
- (8) Respondent has also been convicted of Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (9) Having been found guilty and convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed such conviction, Respondent, Donald W. Hill, should have his license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeal of his criminal conviction. TRDP 8.04.
- (10) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final.

## Disbarment

It is, therefore, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent,

Donald W. Hill, State Bar No. 09628400, be and he is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law

Judgment of Disbarment Donald W. Hill BODA No. 46727 Page **3** of **5**  in the State of Texas, and his license to practice law in this state be and is hereby revoked.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, is hereafter permanently prohibited, effective immediately, 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, Donald W. Hill, not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the entry 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 has any legal matter pending, if any, of his 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 Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, shall immediately notify each of his current clients and opposing counsel, if any, in writing, of his 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 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 Office of

the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel 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 his inability to return to said client any file, paper, money or other property. Respondent is also ORDERED to mail copies of all notification letters to clients, to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, if he has not already done so, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P. O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, for transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Signed this  $30^{12}$  day of July 2014.

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CHAIR PRESIDING

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