

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
CHARLES ERNEST HILL	§	CAUSE NO. 47839
STATE BAR CARD NO. 09625300	§	

JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On the 28th day of January 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 attorney and announced ready. Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, appeared in person and with counsel and announced ready. All issues of fact and 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 enters the following findings and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, State Bar Card Number 09625300, is licensed and authorized to practice law in the State of Texas by the Supreme Court of Texas.
- (2) On or about November 14, 2008, Charles Ernest Hill was charged by Indictment with Insurance Fraud, in Cause No. 1191626, styled, *The State of Texas v. Charles Ernest Hill*, in the 184th District Court of Harris County, Texas.
- (3) On or about November 6, 2009, an Order of Deferred Adjudication was entered in Case No.1191626, styled *The State of Texas v. Hill, Charles Ernest*, in the 184th District Court of Harris County, Texas, wherein Hill pled nolo contendere to Insurance Fraud, \$1500-\$20,000, a State Jail Felony, and was sentenced to two years Deferred Adjudication Community Supervision, ordered to pay \$203.00 in court costs and \$14,862.82 in restitution and further ordered to complete 120 hours of community service. The

community service requirement was waived on condition that Hill provides medical documentation of a disability.

- (4) Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, is the same person as the Charles Ernest Hill who is the subject of the Judgment described above.
- (5) Respondent's criminal sentence was fully probated.

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(G), 8.01, and 8.03 ("TRDP").
- (2) Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, having pled nolo contendere and having been placed on probation for an Intentional Crime, 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). This is a fully probated sentence for purposes of TRDP 8.06.
- (3) Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, 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, Charles Ernest Hill, is revoked, Respondent should be disbarred. TRDP 8.06.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, State Bar Card No. 09625300, 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 November 6, 2011.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, 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, Charles Ernest Hill, 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, Charles Ernest Hill, 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, Charles Ernest Hill, 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 the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, 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, Charles Ernest Hill, is revoked, Respondent, Charles Ernest Hill, shall be DISBARRED upon the filing by the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of an appropriate motion supported by certified copies of court documents showing that such criminal probation has been revoked.

Signed this 8th day of February 2011.



CHAIR PRESIDING