

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
SOPHIA JULIANA JOHNSON,
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24103214**

§
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§

CAUSE NO. 69893

AGREED JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On this day the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner and Respondent appeared in person 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 solely for the purposes of this proceeding which has not been fully adjudicated. Respondent waives any and all defenses that could be asserted under Rule 9.04 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. 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, conclusions, and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, Bar Card No. is 24103214, is an attorney licensed and authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) The Joint Petition for Consent Discipline Pursuant to Rule XIX, Section 20, styled Number: 23-B-1688, *In Re: Confidential Party* (ODC File No. 0041348); filed December 21, 2023, states in pertinent part as follows:

1.

Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, Bar Roll No. 33205,
was admitted to practice on October 21, 2010.

2.

The relevant facts concerning the misconduct of Respondent

are set forth in the Joint Stipulation of Facts accompanying this Joint Petition for Consent Discipline.

3.

Respondent acknowledges her misconduct, and the ODC respectfully requests that Respondent be disciplined by the Louisiana Supreme Court for failing to bring a meritorious claim, in violation of Rule 3.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct; for making a false claim to a tribunal, in violation of Rule 3.3 of the Rules of Professional Conduct; for falsifying evidence, in violation of Rule 3.4 of the Rules of Professional Conduct; for making a false statement of material fact, in violation of Rule 4.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct; for engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice, in violation of Rule 8.4(d) of the Rules of Professional Conduct; and, for violating or attempting to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, in violation of Rule 8.4(a) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

4.

Respondent has consented to the imposition of discipline freely and voluntarily. She has not been the subject of coercion or duress and she is fully aware of the implications of submitting to consent discipline.

5.

Respondent has consented to the imposition of discipline because she knows that she could not successfully defend herself against the formal charges filed in this matter.

6.

Pursuant to Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XIX, Section 20, Respondent and the ODC jointly petition this Court for an order of discipline, imposing a one-year period of actual suspension retroactive to the date of her Interim Suspension subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Respondent will attend the LSBA Ethics School; and,
- 2) Respondent shall pay all costs associated with these proceedings.

WHEREFORE, Respondent and the Office of Disciplinary

Counsel pray that the Louisiana Supreme Court will favorably consider and approve the Joint Petition for Consent Discipline, imposing the sanction of a one-year period of actual suspension retroactive to the date of her Interim Suspension subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Respondent will attend the LSBA Ethics School; and,
- 2) Respondent shall pay all costs associated with these proceedings.

(3) On or about February 6, 2024, an Order Per Curium was entered by the Supreme Court of Louisiana styled Supreme Court of Louisiana, No. 2023-B-1688, *In Re: Sophia Juliana Johnson*, Attorney Disciplinary Proceedings, which states in pertinent part:

The Office of Disciplinary Counsel ("ODC") commenced an investigation into allegations that respondent falsified an email to cover up her failure to timely disclose her clients' expert witnesses and made false statements in pleadings filed in federal court. Prior to the filing of formal charges, respondent and the ODC submitted a joint petition for consent discipline. Having reviewed the petition,

IT IS ORDERED that the Petition for Consent Discipline be accepted and that Sophia Juliana Johnson, Louisiana Bar Roll number 33205, be and she hereby is suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year, retroactive to October 12, 2023, the date of her interim suspension. It is further ordered that respondent shall comply with the conditions set forth in the petition for consent discipline.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all costs and expenses in the matter are assessed against respondent in accordance with Supreme Court Rule XIX, § 10.1, with legal interest to commence thirty days from the date of finality of this court's judgment until paid.

- (4) Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, is the same person as the Sophia Juliana Johnson, who is the subject of the Order entered by the Supreme Court of Louisiana; and
- (5) The Order entered by the Supreme Court of Louisiana is final.

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. TEX. RULES DISCIPLINARY P. R. 7.08(H).
- (2) Reciprocal discipline identical, to the extent practicable, to that imposed by the Supreme Court of Louisiana is warranted in this case.
- (3) Respondent should be actively suspended from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, State Bar Card No. 24103214, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in Texas for a period of one (1) year. Respondent shall be actively suspended from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year beginning Sep. 10, 2024, and extending through Sep. 9, 2025.

It is further **ORDERED, ADJUGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, during said suspension is prohibited from practicing law in Texas; holding herself out as an attorney at law in the State of Texas, performing any legal service for others in the State of Texas, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services for work done as an attorney in the State of Texas, appearing as counsel or in any representative capacity as an attorney licensed in the State of Texas in any proceeding in any Texas or Federal court or before any administrative body, or holding herself out to others using her name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words “attorney at law,” “attorney,” “counselor at law”, “Esquire,” “Esq.” or “lawyer” in so much as it pertains to Sophia Juliana Johnson as an attorney in the State of Texas and or Sophia Juliana Johnson’s Texas law license.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, within thirty (30) days of the date 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, Sophia Juliana Johnson, has any legal matter pending, if any, of her 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, Sophia Juliana Johnson, shall file with the State Bar of Texas, Statewide Compliance Monitor, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, an affidavit stating Respondent has notified in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent has any matter pending of the terms of this judgment, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address, and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing in that court or tribunal.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall notify each of her current clients and opposing counsel, if any, in writing, of her suspension. In addition to such notification, Respondent is **ORDERED** to return any files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and property which are in her possession or control but which belong to current or former clients, if any, to those respective clients or former clients within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment if requested.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, shall within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, file with the State Bar of Texas, Statewide Compliance Monitor, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), an affidavit stating all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of Respondent's suspension and

that all files, papers, monies, and other property belonging to all current 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, 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.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Sophia Juliana Johnson, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, shall 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.

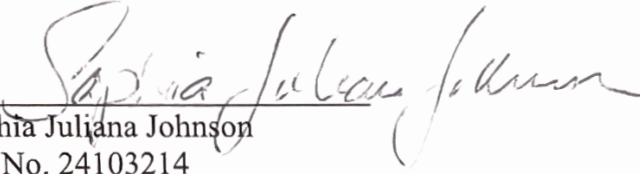
It is further **ORDERED** that this Judgment of Suspension shall be made a matter of public record and be published in the *Texas Bar Journal*.

Signed this 10th day of September 2024.



CHAIR PRESIDING

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:



Sophia Juliana Johnson
Bar No. 24103214
Respondent



Amanda M. Kates
Bar No. 24075987
Attorney for Petitioner