

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

IN THE MATTER OF \$ TARA EDEN LATUS \$ CAUSE NO. 69924 STATE BAR CARD NO. 24062825 \$

JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

On the 3rd day of January, 2025, the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before a panel of the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, appeared by attorney and announced ready. Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, appeared in person and announced ready. All questions of fact 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 presented, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals 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, Tara Eden Latus, whose Bar Card No. is 24062825, is an attorney licensed but not currently authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about April 1, 2024, a Stipulation to Discipline Pursuant to C.R.C.P. 242.19 was filed in the disciplinary matter styled *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado v. Respondent: Tara Eden Latus, #51871*, Case Number 23PDJ058, in the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, reflecting that Respondent entered into the Stipulation voluntarily and without coercion or intimidation; that she waived her right to a full and complete evidentiary hearing at which should could present evidence in her defense; that she violated Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15A(a), 1.15B(a)(1),

- 1.16(d), 3.4(c), 5.5(a)(1), and 8.4(c); and that the parties requested that Respondent receive a three-year active suspension.
- (3) On or about April 3, 2024, the Presiding Disciplinary Judge for the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, issued an Order Approving Stipulation to Discipline Under C.R.C.P. 242.19(c) in the matter styled *Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: Tara Eden Latus, #51871*, Case Number 23PDJ058, approving the Stipulation of Discipline referenced in the above paragraph and ordering in pertinent part:
 - 1. TARA EDEN LATUS, attorney registration number 51871, is SUSPENDED from the practice of law for a period of THREE YEARS.
 - 2. Respondent violated Colo. RPC 1.15A(a); Colo. RPC 1.15B(a)(1); Colo. RPC 1.16(d); Colo. RPC 3.4(c); Colo. RPC 5.5(a)(1); and Colo. RPC 8.4(c)...
- (4) Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, is the same person as the Tara Eden Latus who is the subject of the Order Approving Stipulation to Discipline referenced in the above paragraph.
- (5) The Order entered in the Supreme Court of the State of Colorado 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. 7.08(H), 9.01.
- (2) Respondent filed a timely answer but failed to establish a defense under Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure 9.04 by clear and convincing evidence.
- (3) Reciprocal discipline, identical to the extent practicable, to that imposed by the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, is warranted in this case.
- (4) Respondent should be actively suspended from the practice of law for a period of three (3) years.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, State Bar Card No. 24062825, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in

Texas for a period of three (3) years beginning <u>January 8, 2025</u>, and extending through <u>January</u>

7, 2028.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that Respondent Tara Eden

Latus, during said suspension, is prohibited 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 or in any representative capacity 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 at law," "attorney," "counselor at

law," Esquire," "Esq." or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, 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, Tara Eden Latus, 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, Tara Eden Latus, 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

that 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

Judgment of Suspension Tara Eden Latus

telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing in that court or tribunal.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, 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

all 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** Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, within thirty (30) days of the date

of this judgment, 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), an affidavit stating that

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 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.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Tara Eden Latus, 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 shall be published in the *Texas Bar Journal*.

Judgment of Suspension Tara Eden Latus Signed this 8th day of January 2025.

CHAIR PRESIDING