



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

IN THE MATTER OF §
DONALD EDWARD LITTLE § CAUSE NO. 66182
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24076191 §

AGREED INTERLOCUTORY ORDER OF SUSPENSION

On this day the above-styled and numbered compulsory disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and Respondent, Donald Edward Little, 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. 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 and orders:

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

- (1) Respondent, Donald Edward Little, Bar Card number 24076191, is licensed and authorized by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law in the State of Texas.
- (2) On or about January 12, 2021, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Misapplication of Fiduciary/Financial Property of the value of \$30,000 or more but less than \$150,000 (PC §32.03 and 32.45) CJIS# 26990217 Third Degree, in Cause Number CR21-002, styled *The State of Texas v. Donald Edward Little*, in the 51st Judicial District Court of Irion County, Texas.
- (3) On or about August 5, 2021, a Judgment of Conviction by Jury was entered in Cause No. CR21-002; styled *The State of Texas v. Donald Edward Little*, in the 51st District Court, Irion County, Texas, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Misapplication of Fiduciary Property greater than \$30,000 but less than \$150,000 in violation of Penal Code §32.03 and 32.45, a third-degree felony. Respondent was sentenced to five (5) years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division and further found that Respondent is entitled to the jail time credit of one (1) day. Respondent was further ordered to pay a fine in the amount of \$5,000,

restitution in the amount of \$20,500.

- (4) Respondent, Donald Edward Little, is the same person as the Donald Edward Little who is the subject of the criminal case described above.
- (5) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction.

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. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 7.08(G), 8.01-04.
- (2) Respondent, Donald Edward Little, having been found guilty of Misapplication of Fiduciary Property greater than \$30,000 but less than \$150,000 in violation of Penal Code §32.03 and 32.45, a third-degree felony, has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TEX. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 1.06(V).
- (3) Respondent has also been convicted of a Serious Crime as defined by TEX. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 1.06(GG).
- (4) Having been found guilty and convicted of an Intentional and Serious Crime and having appealed such conviction, Respondent, Donald Edward Little, should have his license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeal of his criminal conviction. TEX. R. DISCIPLINARY P. R. 8.04.
- (5) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final.

It is, accordingly, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Donald Edward Little, State Bar Card No. 24076191, is hereby **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law in the State of Texas effective immediately upon entry of this order and continuing hereafter until further order of this Board.

It is further **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED** that Respondent, Donald Edward Little, during said suspension is hereby 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 not completed before the date of this order,

appearing as counsel 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 Edward Little, shall notify in writing, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent 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. Respondent is further **ORDERED** to file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating wither (a) that each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent has any legal matter pending, if any, of his suspension, has been notified or (b) that Respondent has no legal matters pending in any court.

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent, Donald Edward Little, 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 with active cases pending, if any, to those respective clients or former clients with active cases pending within thirty (30) days after the date of this Order. Respondent is further **ORDERED** to file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar

of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating either (a) 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 with active cases pending have been returned as ordered herein or (b) that Respondent has no current clients, files, or papers, and that any unearned fees paid in advance or other monies or properties belonging to clients have previously been returned to the appropriate client. If Respondent is unable to return any file, papers, money or other property to any client or former client with active cases pending, 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 all notification letters 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, Donald Edward Little, immediately surrender his Texas law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary, 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 a certified copy of the Third Amended Petition for Compulsory Discipline on file herein, along with a copy of this Order, be sent to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further **ORDERED** that this Order is interlocutory and that the Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final. *In the Matter of Mercier*, 242 SW 3d 46 (Tex. 2007).

It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent shall promptly notify the Board and the State Bar of Texas Chief Disciplinary Counsel when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final.

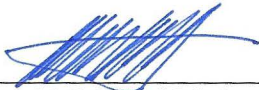
It is further **ORDERED** that the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas shall monitor the status of the appeal of the criminal conviction on at least a quarterly basis and promptly file an appropriate motion for entry of final judgment with the Board if and when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final.

Signed this 2nd day of February 2023.



CHAIR PRESIDING

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:



Donald Edward Little
State Bar Card No. 24076191
Respondent



Judith Gres DeBerry
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
State Bar Card No. 24040780
Attorney for Petitioner