FILED
10/26/26
THE BOARD of DISCIPLINARY APPEALS
Appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	
MARY MANKESI PANZU	§	**CAUSE NO. 73891**
STATE BAR CARD NO. 24066911	§	

RESPONDENT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER TO PETITION FOR COMPULSORY DISCIPLINE

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS:

Respondent, Mary Mankesi Panzu, through undersigned counsel, files this Original Answer to the Petition for Compulsory Discipline filed by the Commission for Lawyer Discipline on September 1, 2026, and respectfully shows the following:

1. General Denial

Under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 92, made applicable by BODA Internal Procedural Rule 1.03, Respondent generally denies the allegations in the Petition and demands strict proof of them.

2. The Offense is Not an Intentional Crime

Compulsory discipline under Part VIII applies only to an Intentional Crime. Under Rule 1.06, an Intentional Crime is (1) a Serious Crime that requires proof of knowledge or intent as an essential element, or (2) a crime involving misapplication of money or other property held as a fiduciary. The second category does not apply here.

A Serious Crime, as relevant here, is a "felony involving moral turpitude." The Petition alleges that the offense is a Serious Crime but does not allege, and does not show, that it involves moral turpitude.

3. Reservation of Rights

Respondent reserves the right to amend this Answer as permitted by the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and BODA's Internal Procedural Rules.

4. Prayer

Respondent respectfully asks the Board of Disciplinary Appeals to find that the offense in Cause No. 1883169 is not an Intentional Crime and to deny the Petition for Compulsory Discipline. Respondent asks for all other relief to which she may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on October 26, 2026, a true and correct copy of this answer was served on counsel for the Commission for Lawyer Discipline by email, as follows:

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