

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

IN THE MATTER OF JOHN WILLIAM TINDER, II STATE BAR CARD NO. 24003060

CAUSE NO. 57703

AGREED JUDGMENT OF SUSPENSION

§

On the <u>75</u> day of <u>76</u> 2016, the above-styled and numbered reciprocal disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and Respondent appeared pro se 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:

<u>Findings of Fact</u>. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals finds that:

- (1) Respondent, John William Tinder, II, is an attorney who is licensed and authorized to practice law in the State of Texas, and whose Bar Card No. is 24003060:
- On or about January 22, 2016, a Stipulation, Agreement and Affidavit Containing the Respondent's Conditional Admission of Misconduct was filed with the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, Supreme Court of Colorado, in a matter styled: Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: John William Tinder, #39915, in Case No. 15 PDJ 082. In the Stipulation, Agreement and Affidavit Containing the Respondent's Conditional Admission of Misconduct, the Court found that "Respondent has engaged in conduct constituting grounds for the imposition of discipline pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.5. Respondent has also violated Colo. RPC 1.1, 1.2(a), 1.3, 1.4(a)(3), 1.4(a)(4), 1.16(d), 3.4(c), 3.4(d), 8.4(c)."

On or about January 26, 2016, an Order Approving Conditional Admission of Misconduct and Imposing Sanctions Pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.22 was entered in the Supreme Court, State of Colorado, before the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a matter styled: Complainant: The People of the State of Colorado, Respondent: John William Tinder, II, in Case No. 15PDJ082, that states in pertinent part as follows:
...1. The stipulation is APPROVED. 2. JOHN WILLIAM TINDER, Attorney Registration Number 39915, is SUSPENDED from the practice of law for a period of ONE YEAR AND ONE DAY, subject to paying restitution as a condition of reinstatement, as set forth in paragraph 17 of

the stipulation...

(4) The Stipulation, Agreement and Affidavit Containing the Respondent's Conditional Admission of Misconduct established that Respondent violated the following Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct: Rule 1.1 A lawyer shall provide competent representation to a client. Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation; Rule 1.2 (a) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d), a lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A lawyer may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation. A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to settle a matter. In a criminal case, the lawver shall abide by the client's decision, after consultation with the lawyer, as to a plea to be entered, whether to waive jury trial and whether the client will testify; Rule 1.3 A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; Rule 1.4(a)(3) A lawyer shall keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter; Rule 1.4.(a)(4) A lawyer shall promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; Rule 1.16(d) Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payment of fee or expense that has not been earned or incurred. The lawyer may retain papers relating to the client to the extent permitted by other law; Rule 3.4(c) A lawyer shall not knowingly disobey an obligation under the rules of a tribunal except for an open refusal based on an assertion that no valid obligation exists; Rule 3.4(d) A lawyer shall not in pretrial procedure, make a frivolous discovery request or fail to make reasonably diligent effort to comply with a legally proper discovery request by an opposing party; Rule 8.4(c) It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

- (6) Respondent, John William Tinder, II, is the same person as the John William Tinder, II, who is the subject of the Order Approving Conditional Admission of Misconduct and Imposing Sanctions Pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.22 entered by the Supreme Court of Colorado; and
- (7) The Order Approving Conditional Admission of Misconduct and Imposing Sanctions Pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.22 from the Supreme Court of the Colorado is final.

<u>Conclusions of Law</u>. 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. Rule 7.08(H), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure;
- (2) Reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the Supreme Court of Colorado is warranted in this case.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Respondent, John William Tinder, II, State Bar Card No. 24003060, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in Texas for a period of one year and one day beginning \(\tau\text{VIJZ5}\), 2016, and ending \(\text{VIJZ6}\), 2017.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, John William Tinder, II, 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, John William Tinder, II, 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, John William

Tinder, II, 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.

It is further ORDERED Respondent 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 Court.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, John William Tinder, II, within thirty (30) days

of the date of this judgment, shall notify each of his current clients and opposing counsel, 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 of the date of this judgment.

It is further ORDERED Respondent 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 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 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

Agreed Judgment of Suspension John William Tinder, II with respect to each particular client and the cause of his inability to return to said client any file,

paper, money or other property.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, John William Tinder, II, within thirty (30) days of the date of this judgment, 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 a certified copy of the Petition for Reciprocal Discipline on file herein, along with a copy of this Judgment, be sent to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Judgment of Suspension shall be made a matter of public record and be published in the <u>Texas Bar Journal</u>.

Signed this 25 day of v

2016.

Chair Presiding

BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Audith Gres DeBerry

Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

State Bar No. 24040780

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

John William Tinder, II State Bar No. 240036843

RESPONDENT

Agreed Judgment of Suspension John William Tinder, II Page 5 of 5