

VIRGINIA :

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF
JOHN V. BUFFINGTON, JR.

VSB Docket No. 06-000-3411

ORDER

This matter came before the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board pursuant to a Rule to Show Cause issued in accordance with Part 6, Section 4, Paragraph 13, I, 6 of the Rules of Court.

The Rule to Show Cause alleged that Mr. Buffington had been suspended by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for a period of six months. A hearing was held before the Disciplinary Board on May 19, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the State Corporation Commission, Courtroom A, Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia. The Disciplinary Board Panel consisted of James L. Banks, Jr., 2nd Vice-Chairman (the "Chair"), William C. Boyce, Jr., Nancy C. Dickinson, William E. Glover, and Dr. Theodore Smith (lay member). The Bar was represented by Assistant Bar Council Richard E. Slaney, and the Respondent, John V. Buffington, Jr., was not represented by counsel. The proceedings were recorded by Tracy J. Stroh, P.O. Box 9349, Richmond, Virginia 23227, (804)730-1222, after being duly sworn by the Chairman.

At 9:00 a.m., Mr. Buffington was not in the courtroom and his name was called three times in the hall with no response. The hearing proceeded in Mr. Buffington's absence.

The Panel was polled as to whether any conflict existed which might interfere with the member's ability to hear the matter fairly and all responded in the negative, including the Chair.

The Bar introduced evidence of Mr. Buffington's six month suspension by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania as well as a corresponding suspension by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

No evidence was presented as to why Mr. Buffington's license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia should not be suspended for a similar period of time.

Therefore, it is ORDERED that Respondent's license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia be and hereby is suspended for a period of six months, effective May 19, 2006.

The Respondent must comply with the requirements of Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13.M of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia and notify all appropriate persons about the suspension of his license if he is handling any client matters at the time. If the Respondent is not handling any client matters on the effective date of his license suspension, he shall submit an affidavit to that effect to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System at the Virginia State Bar. All issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required by Paragraph 13.M shall be determined by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board, unless the Respondent makes a timely request for hearing before a three-judge court.

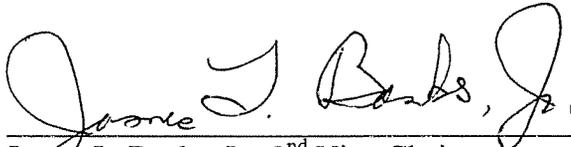
COSTS

Pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13.B.8(c) of the Rules, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs.

It is further ORDERED that the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall mail an attested copy of this order to respondent at his addresses of record with the Virginia State Bar, being John V. Buffington, Jr., 4730 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19124-2941, by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail to Richard Slaney, Assistant Bar Counsel, Virginia State Bar, 707 East Main Street, Suite 1500, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

ENTERED this 31st day of May, 2006.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD



James L. Banks, Jr., 2nd Vice-Chairman