

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE NINTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

OCT 16 2013

IN THE MATTER OF  
William Craig Meyer, II

VSB Docket No. 13-090-094617

SUBCOMMITTEE DETERMINATION  
(PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITHOUT TERMS)

On October 4, 2013 a meeting was held in this matter before a duly convened Ninth District Subcommittee consisting of Stover Henry Creasy, IV, Nora Jane Miller, and Larry Dean Clark. During the meeting, the Subcommittee voted to approve an Agreed Disposition for a Public Reprimand without Terms pursuant to Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-15.B.4. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Agreed Disposition was entered into by the Virginia State Bar, by Edward James Dillon, Jr., Assistant Bar Counsel, and William Craig Meyer, II, Respondent, *pro se*.

WHEREFORE, the Ninth District Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar hereby serves upon Respondent the following Public Reprimand without Terms:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all relevant times, Respondent William Craig Meyer II (“Respondent”) has been an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. Respondent was appointed by the Circuit Court for Pittsylvania County to represent Complainant DeAndre Thomas (“Complainant”) in regard to a series of pending criminal charges.
3. Complainant pled guilty to certain charges and was found guilty of certain other criminal charges. In or about February 2011, the Circuit Court for Pittsylvania County sentenced Complainant to an active sentence of twenty-three years’ incarceration.
4. Respondent appealed Complainant’s conviction to the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

5. On September 7, 2011, by *per curiam* opinion, the Court of Appeals of Virginia denied the appeal.
6. Respondent advised Complainant of Complainant's further appellate options and noted an appeal, on Complainant's behalf, to the Supreme Court of Virginia.
7. Respondent never filed a petition for appeal with the Supreme Court of Virginia.
8. Complainant stated that he and his family requested information from Respondent regarding the status of Complainant's appeal for a few years, but received no information from Respondent.
9. Respondent denied receiving any communications from Complainant or his family about the status of Complainant's appeal until after Complainant filed the Bar Complaint.
10. Regardless, Respondent did not communicate with Complainant about the status of Complainant's appeal or Respondent's failure to perfect the appeal until after Complainant filed the instant Bar Complaint on or about January 30, 2013.
11. In a letter to Complainant dated March 28, 2013, Respondent stated: "You are correct that your Petition for Appeal was not received by the Supreme Court of Virginia. I apologize for that error. I did file with that court but the matter was never perfected. The error is mine."
12. As a result of Respondent's failure to timely notify Complainant of Respondent's failure to perfect Complainant's appeal to the Supreme Court of Virginia, Complainant's ability to pursue a delayed appeal was also compromised.

#### NATURE OF MISCONDUCT

Such conduct by Respondent constitutes misconduct in violation of the following provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct:

**Rule 1.3      Diligence**

- (a) A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

**Rule 1.4      Communication**

- (a) A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

#### PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITHOUT TERMS

Accordingly, having approved the Agreed Disposition, it is the decision of the Subcommittee to impose a Public Reprimand without Terms and William Craig Meyer, II is

hereby so reprimanded. Pursuant to Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-9.E of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs.

NINTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

By:   
Stover Henry Creasy, IV  
Subcommittee Chair

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on October 16, 2013, a true and complete copy of the Subcommittee Determination (Public Reprimand without Terms) was sent by certified mail to William Craig Meyer, II, Respondent, at P.O. Box 1053, Chatham, Virginia 24531-1053, Respondent's last address of record with the Virginia State Bar.



Edward James Dillon, Jr.  
Assistant Bar Counsel