

VIRGINIA: BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF
DENNIS MICHAEL O'KEEFE
VSB Docket No. 07-000-2556

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 VI, Paragraph 13,I,7.b. and f. of the Rules of Court.

The Rule to Show Cause and Order of Suspension and Hearing alleged that Mr. O'Keefe had been disbarred from the practice of law effective December 31, 2005 by Order of Disbarment, filed on January 31, 2007 by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. A hearing was held before the Disciplinary Board on March 23, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the Worker's Compensation Commission Building, Courtroom A, 1000 DMV Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23220. The Disciplinary Board Panel consisted of James L. Banks, Jr., First Vice-Chair, William C. Boyce, Jr., W. Jefferson O'Flaherty (lay member), John W. Richardson, and Thomas R. Scott. The Bar was represented by Richard E. Slaney, Assistant Bar Counsel, and the Respondent, Dennis Michael O'Keefe, was not present and was not represented by counsel. The proceedings were recorded by Jennifer L. Hairfield, P.O. Box 9349, Richmond, Virginia 23227 (804) 730-1222, after being duly sworn by the First Vice-Chair.

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

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

The Bar introduced evidence of Mr. O'Keefe's disbarment in the form of the Disbarment Order of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia effective December 31, 2005. The specification of charges against Mr. O'Keefe allege that Mr. O'Keefe had violated 11 rules of the District of Columbia Rules of Professional Conduct relating to client confidences, knowingly making false statement of material fact, the commission of perjury, and conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, all of which are violations of various disciplinary rules similar to the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct. Those allegations were deemed to be admitted. Each of the four exhibits offered by the Virginia State Bar were received by the Panel and entered as evidence in the matter.

No evidence was presented as to why Mr. O'Keefe's license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia should not be revoked.

Therefore, it is **ORDERED** that Respondent's license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia be and hereby is revoked, effective March 23, 2007.

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 revocation 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 revocation, 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.

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

It is further **ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall mail an attested copy of this order to respondent Dennis Michael O'Keefe at his addresses of record with the Virginia State Bar, 1522 North 22nd Street, No. 1, Arlington, Virginia 22209-1104, and 14528 Pebblewood Drive, North Potomac, Maryland 20878, by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail to Assistant Bar Counsel, Richard E. Slaney, Virginia State Bar, 707 East Main Street, Suite 1500, Richmond, Virginia 23219-2800.

ENTERED this 26th day of May, 2007.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

By 
James L. Banks, Jr., First Vice-Chair

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