

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE FOURTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE SECTION II  
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

IN THE MATTER OF  
CHRISTOPHER PAUL SCHEWE

VS B Docket No. 17-042-108562

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE DETERMINATION**  
**(PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITHOUT TERMS)**

On June 8, 2017, a Show Cause hearing in this matter was held pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-16.BB of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court, following issuance of a Rule to Show Cause against Christopher P. Schewe (“Respondent”) directing him to appear and show cause, if any, why the alternative sanction of a Public Reprimand should not be imposed upon him due to his failure to comply with certain terms imposed upon him by the Fourth District Committee Section II in its Private Admonition with Terms issued on September 6, 2016 in VSB Docket No. 15-042-102512. Following notice to Respondent as required under the rules, the matter was convened before a duly constituted Fourth District Section II Committee panel consisting of Karen E. Kelly, Esquire, Anne M. Heishman, Esquire, Kiersten L. Jensen, Esquire, Victor J. Roy, Lay Member, Marian Wiggins, Lay Member, and Sean P. Schmergel, Esquire, presiding. Rudiger and Green transcribed the proceedings.

Respondent did not appear in person. Kathleen M. Uston, Assistant Bar Counsel, appeared as counsel for the Virginia State Bar. Prior to the hearing, Ms. Uston was contacted by Respondent’s former counsel, Michael Rigsby, Esquire, via email who advised that Respondent did not object to the imposition of the alternative sanction of a Public Reprimand. A copy of Mr. Rigsby’s email was entered into the record of this case.

Pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-16.Z of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court, the Fourth District Committee Section II of the Virginia State Bar hereby serves upon the Respondent the following Public Reprimand:

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent has been an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. On April 15, 2015, Respondent appeared in the General District Court for the City of Alexandria as counsel for himself in a civil matter. Respondent was observed by several police officers, both inside and outside the courtroom, and was observed to be intoxicated. Respondent was asked by one of the officers to leave the courtroom with him while court was in session. Respondent did so and as the officer escorted Respondent from the courtroom he detected the odor of alcohol on Respondent's breath. Outside the courtroom, Respondent was asked to submit to a breathalyzer which he refused. He was thereafter arrested and charged with drunk in public.
3. This charge against Respondent was subsequently *nolle prossed* after he agreed to withdraw his appeal of a DUI conviction that had been entered against him on March 27, 2015.
4. Respondent denies that he was intoxicated at the time of the incident discussed above.

## II. NATURE OF MISCONDUCT

Such conduct by Christopher Paul Schewe constitutes misconduct in violation of the following provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct:

### **RULE 1.1 Competence**


A lawyer shall provide competent representation to a client. Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation.

**III. PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITHOUT TERMS**

Accordingly, it is the decision of the District Committee to impose a Public Reprimand Without Terms and the Respondent is hereby so reprimanded.


Pursuant to Paragraph 13-9.E of the Rules of Court, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs.

FOURTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
SECTION II OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

By   
Sean P. Schmergel, Esquire  
District Committee Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 30th day of June, 2017, a true copy of the District Committee Determination (Public Reprimand) was sent by certified mail to Christopher Paul Schewe, Respondent, at 216 South Patrick Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, Respondent's last address of record with the Virginia State Bar.

  
Kathleen M. Uston, Esquire