

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF

WILLIAM L. STABLES, JR.,
RESPONDENT

VSB DOCKET NO. 15-000-101165 and
13-070-095735

ORDER

THESE matters came to be heard on May 15, 2015, before a Panel of the Disciplinary Board (Board) consisting of Esther J. Windmueller, Acting Chair, in her capacity as Chairman of this hearing; Thomas O. Bondurant, Jr., Lisa A. Wilson, Jeffrey L. Marks and Robert W. Carter, Lay Member. The Virginia State Bar (VSB) was represented by Alfred L. Carr. The Respondent, who failed to appear or respond was not represented by counsel. The Chair polled the Members of the Board Panel (Panel) as to whether any of them was conscious of any personal or financial interest or bias which would preclude any of them from fairly hearing these matters and serving on the Panel, to which inquiry each member responded in the negative. Angela N. Sidener of the Court Reporting firm of Chandler & Halasz, Inc., P.O. Box 9349, Richmond, Virginia 23227, and telephone number (804) 7301222, and after being duly sworn, reported the hearing and transcribed the proceedings. The matters came before the Board, pursuant to Part 6, § IV, ¶ 1329 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia (Rules), on a Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing (Show Cause) entered April 7, 2015 against the Respondent and a Petition for a Rule to Show Cause why his license to practice law should not be suspended or revoked for failure to comply with Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 1329 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

The Clerk called the Respondent's name three times and the Respondent failed to respond or be represented by counsel. The Board entertained opening statements from the VSB and received evidence.

All VSB exhibits submitted were admitted without objection.

After due deliberation, the Board made the following findings on the basis of clear and convincing evidence:

At all times relevant hereto, William L. Stables, Jr., hereinafter the Respondent, has been an attorney licensed to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia and whose address of record with the Virginia State Bar has been William L. Stables, Jr., 57 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801. The Respondent received proper notice of these proceedings as set forth in Part Six, IV, ¶ 13-12 C. of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court.

After considering all relevant facts, stipulations and argument of counsel, the Respondent failed to Show Cause as to why his license to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia should not be suspended or revoked pursuant to Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Upon review of the foregoing findings, upon review of the exhibits presented by Bar counsel on behalf of the VSB as exhibits and argument of bar counsel, at the conclusion of the evidence, the Board recessed to deliberate. After due deliberation, the Board reconvened and stated its findings as follows:

1. The Virginia State Bar administratively suspended Respondent for failure to pay costs associated with a disciplinary proceeding, VSB Case Number 11-070-088311. Proper notice of this suspension was sent to the Respondent's address of record on October 2, 2013

directing him to comply with Rules of Court, Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-29. That notice was returned by the U.S. Postal Service. Respondent did not comply.

2. On December 3, 2013, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System sent the Respondent an Interim Suspension order for failure to comply with a subpoena duces tecum filed on October 9, 2013 in VSB case number 13-070-095735. This notice was also returned as undeliverable by the U.S. Postal Service.

3. On February 7, 2014, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System sent an Order of Administrative Suspension to the Respondent for failure to pay costs in VSB case number, 12-070-090590.

4. The Respondent by ignoring all notices provided by VSB and by failing to appear at any of the noticed hearings, failed to provide any evidence contrary to the evidence proved by VSB that he complied with the Orders of the Virginia State Bar, and thus has failed to Show Cause as to why his license should not be revoked under Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia;

2. The Board found that William L. Stables, Jr. failed to show cause why the Virginia State Bar should not revoke his license to practice law as he failed to give notice by certified mail of the suspension or revocation of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, to all clients for whom he is currently handling matters and to all opposing attorneys and presiding judges in pending litigation. The Respondent failed to make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in his care in conformity with the wishes of his client. Respondent failed to give such notice within 14 days of the effective date of the sanction, and make such arrangements as are required herein within 45 days or the effective date of the suspension or revocation. The Respondent also failed to furnish proof to the Bar within 60 days

of the effective day of the suspension or revocation that such notices were timely given and such arrangements made for the disposition of matters.

Accordingly, the Respondent, William L. Stables, Jr., is found in violation of the Show Cause and it is ORDERED that his license to practice law is REVOKED effective May 15, 2015. Upon Bar Counsel's Motion to Dismiss, the Board then dismissed VSB Docket No. 13-070-095735, without prejudice.

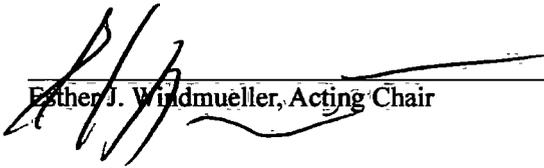
It is ORDERED that as directed in the Board's Summary Order dated May 15, 2015, in this matter, Respondent must comply with the requirements of Part Six, § IV, ¶ 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Respondent shall forthwith give notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the revocation of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia to all clients for whom he is currently handling matters and to all opposing attorneys and presiding judges in pending litigation. Respondent shall also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in the process of his office and take care in conforming with the wishes of the client. Respondent shall give such notice within fourteen (14) days of the effective date of this revocation and make such arrangements as are required within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Order. The Respondent shall also furnish proof to the Bar within sixty (60) days of the effective date of said Order that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements made for the disposition of matters. All issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required by Paragraph 13-29 shall be determined by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board.

It is further ORDERED that pursuant to Part Six, § IV, ¶ 13-9 E. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess all costs against the respondent.

It is further ORDERED that the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall mail an attested copy of this Order to Respondent at his address of record with the Virginia State Bar being William L. Stables, Jr., 57 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 by certified, return receipt mail and hand delivered to Alfred J. Carr, Assistant Bar Counsel, 1111 East Main Street, Suite 700, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

ENTERED this 14 day of July, 2015

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD



Esther J. Windmueller, Acting Chair