



VIRGINIA:

**BEFORE THE SEVENTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR**

**IN THE MATTERS OF
KEITH HAMNER WALDROP**

VSB Docket Nos. 18-70-112160

**AGREED DISPOSITION
PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITHOUT TERMS**

On 24 October 2018, a meeting was held in this matter before a duly convened Seventh District Subcommittee consisting of Joshua E. Hummer, Chair, James S. Kulp, Member, and Stephen J. Napolitano, Lay Member. 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 Prescott L. Prince, Assistant Bar Counsel, and Keith Hamner Waldrop, Respondent, *pro se*.

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

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Keith Hamner Waldrop (hereinafter “Respondent”) Respondent was licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia on 28 April 1982. On 14 March 2018, Respondent’s license to practice law was suspended due to his failure to comply with the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirements as specified by Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13.2.

2. On 20 March 2018, Respondent filed an Answer to Counterclaim in the Goochland Circuit Court, signed a Certificate of Service, and mailed a copy of the pleading to

opposing counsel despite the fact that Respondent was aware that his Virginia law license was suspended.

3. Respondent was provided at least three warnings that the MCLE deadline was approaching. The first such notice was on or about 10 January 2018, more than two months before the deadline. The warning clearly advised him that his law license would be suspended if he did not complete his MCLE requirements prior to 14 March 2018. The last such warning was emailed to Respondent 26 February 2018, more than two weeks before the deadline.

4. Respondent states that he filed the document notwithstanding his suspension because he did not want to miss the filing deadline for the pleading. Respondent acknowledged, however, that he received the counterclaim from the opposing party on 27 February 2018 and that he therefore had more than two weeks to respond to the counterclaim before the MCLE deadline.

5. Respondent acknowledged that he had a responsibility to complete his MCLE hours within the requisite time period. Respondent noted, as mitigation, that a series of serious health complications he experienced in the 2017-2018 impeded his ability to attend the required “Live Interactive” MCLE credits. These medical complications included two surgeries for appendicitis, a serious viral infection, and quadruple by-pass surgery in August 2017 that caused Respondent to be out of work from August until November 2017.

6. Respondent completed the required hours and was returned to active “in good standing” status on 23 March 2018.

II. NATURE OF MISCONDUCT

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

Rule 5.5 Unauthorized Practice Of Law

- (c) A lawyer shall not practice law in a jurisdiction in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in that jurisdiction, or assist another in doing so.

III. 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 Keith Hamner Waldrop 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.

SEVENTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

By: 

Joshua E. Hummer
Subcommittee Chair

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on 9 November 2018 a true and complete copy of the Subcommittee Determination Public Reprimand Without Terms was sent by certified mail to Keith Hamner Waldrop, Respondent, at P. O. Box 268, Goochland, VA 23063-0268, that being Respondent's last address of record with the Virginia State Bar.


Prescott L. Prince
Assistant Bar Counsel