

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE SEVENTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

IN THE MATTER OF
KEITH HAMNER WALDROP, ESQUIRE

VSB Docket No. 08-070-070513

**SUBCOMMITTEE DETERMINATION
(PUBLIC ADMONITION)**

On the 4th day of June, 2009, a meeting in this matter was held before a duly convened Seventh District Subcommittee consisting of David A. Penrod, Esq., Richard E. Lyons, lay member, and William H. Atwill, Jr., Esq., presiding.

Pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-15.B.4. of the Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court, the Seventh District Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar hereby serves upon the Respondent the following PUBLIC ADMONITION:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant hereto, Keith Hamner Waldrop ("Respondent"), has been an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. On January 25, 2007, the Circuit Court of Goochland County appointed the Respondent as the attorney for John T. Bates, (hereinafter "Complainant") in a probation violation matter.
3. On March 13, 2007, the Circuit Court of Goochland County entered an order revoking the Complainant's probation and imposing the balance of his suspended sentence of sixty (60) months jail time.

4. The Complainant, in a letter dated April 30, 2007, states that he has not had any communication with the Respondent concerning his appeal since his hearing in February of 2007.

5. In a letter dated August 23, 2007, Respondent responded to the bar complaint. On page 1, first paragraph, he states that he failed to inform the Complainant of his appeal rights.

6. On page 1, second paragraph of his response, he states that he did not inform the Complainant of his appeal rights due to intervening factors such as other pending matters before the Court that same day.

7. On page 1, third paragraph of his response, the Respondent states he had intended to talk to the Complainant within the 30-day time period in which to file an appeal. The Complainant, however, had been transferred to the New Kent County jail from the Henrico County jail. The Respondent did not travel to the New Kent County jail to communicate with his client.

8. In a letter dated March 27, 2008, the Court of Appeals of Virginia notified the Respondent that his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus had several problems that prevented the court from accepting the petition.

9. The Court of Appeals of Virginia informed the Respondent that in order to file a Petition of Habeas Corpus in this court he had to correct the petition as follows:

- 1) if he intended to file in Court of Appeals, amend the caption accordingly unless he intended to file in the Circuit Court of Goochland County,
- 2) have the petition signed by the petitioner and notarized,
- 3) name a proper respondent and indicate the facility where the petitioner is detained, and
- 4) provide two additional copies.

II. NATURE OF MISCONDUCT

Such conduct by Keith Hamner Waldrop 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.

COSTS

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

SEVENTH DISTRICT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

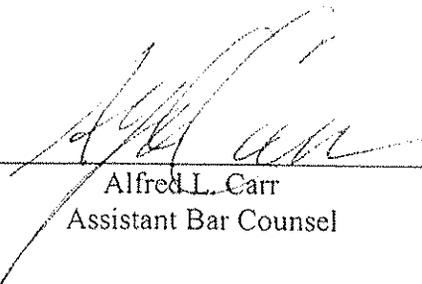
By



William H. Atwill, Jr., Subcommittee Chair
Vice Chair, Seventh District Subcommittee

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on the 8th day of June, 2009, I caused to be mailed by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, a true and complete copy of the Subcommittee Determination (PUBLIC ADMONITION) to Keith Hamner Waldrop, Respondent, at 2941 River Road West, P.O. Box 268, Goochland, VA 23063-0268, Respondent's last address of record with the Virginia State Bar.



Alfred L. Carr
Assistant Bar Counsel