

**VIRGINIA: BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
PETER ROBIN ESTES**

**VSB Docket Number  
19-000-114800**

**MEMORANDUM ORDER OF REVOCATION**

**THIS MATTER** came to be heard on Friday, May 17, 2019, before a panel of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board which consisted of John A. C. Keith, Esquire, Chair Designate; Yvonne S. Gibney, Esquire; Steven B. Novey, Esquire; Martha J. Goodman (Lay Member); and Jeffrey L. Marks, Esquire (collectively, the “Board”). The Virginia State Bar (“Bar”) was represented by Elizabeth K. Shoenfeld, Assistant Bar Counsel. The Respondent, Peter Robin Estes (“Respondent”) did not make an appearance, and his name was called three (3) times in the hearing room and hall without any response by the Respondent. Tracy J. Stroh, Registered Professional Court Reporter with Chandler & Halasz, Post Office Box 9349, Richmond, Virginia 23227, (804) 730-1222, after being duly sworn, reported the hearing and transcribed the proceedings.

The Chair opened the hearing by calling the case in the hearing room and polling the members of the Board 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 this matter and serving on the Panel. Each member responded to the inquiry in the negative.

The matter came before the Board on the Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing (“Rule to Show Cause”) entered on April 19, 2019, which included a copy of the Order entered on October 19, 2016 by the Supreme Court of California in which the Supreme Court of California considered the accompanying Decision and Order of Involuntary Inactive Enrollment dated June 3, 2016 which recommended that the Respondent be disbarred

from the practice of law in the state of California effective three (3) calendar days after service of the same. Also before the Board was the certified Notice Letter (“Notice”) from the Clerk of the Disciplinary System (“Clerk”) to the Respondent dated April 19, 2019 which was served in accordance with the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia (the “Rules”).

In accordance with Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-24 of the Rules, the purpose of the hearing was to provide the Respondent with an opportunity to show cause, by clear and convincing evidence as to why the same discipline that was imposed upon him by the Supreme Court of California should not be imposed by this Board.

The Rule to Show Cause and Notice were received into evidence collectively as Board Exhibit 1. All legal notices of the date and place were timely sent by the Clerk in the manner prescribed by Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-18 of the Rules.

The Bar introduced Bar Exhibit 1, Membership Affidavit and Bar Exhibit 2, Certification of Disciplinary Record, (these exhibits along with Board Exhibit 1 are collectively referred to as the “Exhibits”) which were accepted into evidence without objection.

The Respondent did not file a written response to the Rule to Show Cause in accordance with Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-24(C) of the Rules. The Respondent did not provide *ore tenus* testimony during the hearing.

Accordingly, after the Board accepted into evidence the Exhibits, considered the argument of Bar Counsel, and duly deliberated on this matter, the Board found that the Respondent had failed to show cause by clear and convincing evidence as to why the Board should not impose the same discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of California.

Accordingly, by this Memorandum Order, and in accordance with the Order entered on October 19, 2016, it is ORDERED that the license of the Respondent, Peter Robin Estes, to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia is revoked effective May 17, 2019.

It is further ORDERED that the Respondent must comply with all other terms and conditions imposed by the Supreme Court of California in its Order entered October 19, 2016.

**WHEREFORE**, in accordance with Part Six, § IV, ¶ 13-29 of the Rules, it is further ORDERED that Peter Robin Estes 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 for all opposing attorneys and presiding Judges in pending litigation. The Respondent shall also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in his care in conformity with the wishes of his clients. Respondent shall give such notice within fourteen (14) days of the effective date of the revocation, and makes such arrangements as now required herein 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 the revocation that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements made for the disposition of matters.

It is further ORDERED that if Respondent is not handling any client matters on the effective date of the 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 ¶ 13-29 shall be determined by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board.

It is further ORDERED that pursuant to Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-9E. of the Rules, the Clerk shall assess all costs against the Respondent.

It is further ORDERED that the Clerk shall mail an attested copy of this Order by certified mail, return receipt requested to the Respondent, Peter Robin Estes, at his address of record with the Virginia State Bar of 7108 Evanston Road, Springfield, Virginia 22150-3623, and by hand-delivery to Elizabeth K. Shoenfeld, Assistant Bar Counsel, Virginia State Bar, 1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700, Richmond, Virginia, 23219.

ENTERED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2019.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

By: **John A. C. Keith** Digitally signed by John A. C. Keith  
Date: 2019.05.21 14:53:36 -04'00'  

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John A.C. Keith, Chair Designate