

DISCIPLINARY SUMMARIES

The following are summaries of disciplinary actions for violations of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) (Rules of the Virginia Supreme Court Part 6, § II, eff. Jan. 1, 2000) or another of the Supreme Court Rules.

Copies of disciplinary orders are available at the web link provided with each summary or by contacting the Virginia State Bar Clerk's Office at (804) 775-0539 or clerk@vsb.org. VSB docket numbers are provided.

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

B. Walter Billips

Grundy, Virginia
17-102-108947

Effective, March 23, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board revoked B. Walter Billips' license to practice law based on violations of the rules of professional conduct governing the unauthorized practice of law. RPC 8.5 (a); 5.5 (c); 5.5 (d) (2)(i-ii)

www.vsb.org/docs/Billips-042318.pdf

Karl Galen Blanke

Burke, Virginia
18-052-110532, 18-052-110090

On April 26, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board revoked Karl Galen Blanke's license to practice law based on his affidavit consenting to the revocation. By tendering his consent to revocation at a time when allegations of misconduct are pending, Blanke acknowledges that the material facts upon which the allegations of misconduct pending are true. Rules of Court Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-28

www.vsb.org/docs/Blanke-042718.pdf

Richard Murray

Bradenton, Florida
15-053-101605

On March 30, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board revoked Richard Murray's license to practice law based on his affidavit consenting to the revocation. By tendering his consent to revocation at a time when allegations of misconduct are pending, Murray acknowledges that the material facts upon which the allegations of misconduct are pending are true. Rules of Court Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-28. RPC 1.5 (a), (b); 1.8 (c); 1.15 (a)(3); 3.3 (a)(1); 8.4 (b), (c)

www.vsb.org/docs/Murray-040318.pdf

Ashraf Wajih Nubani

Springfield, Virginia
17-051-107890

Effective April 27, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board suspended Ashraf Wajih Nubani's license to practice law for a period of 60 days with terms for violating professional rules that govern the safekeeping of property. RPC 1.15 (b)(3),

(c), (d)(2-4)

www.vsb.org/docs/Nubani-051418.pdf

Rory Kieran Nugent

Herndon, Virginia
17-053-109426

Effective June 6, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board suspended Rory Kieran Nugent's license to practice law for a period of two and one-half years for violating professional rules that govern diligence, communication, truthfulness in statements to others, and misconduct. RPC 1.3 (a), (b); 1.4 (a), (b); 4.1 (a); 8.4 (b), (c)

www.vsb.org/docs/Nugent-060718.pdf

Laura Reed Wright

Roanoke, Virginia
17-080-107279

On April 2, 2018, the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board revoked Laura Reed Wright's license to practice law based on her affidavit consenting to the revocation. By tendering her consent to revocation at a time when allegations of misconduct are pending, Wright acknowledges that the material facts upon which the allegations of misconduct are pending are true.

Rules of Court Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-28. RPC 3.3 (a)(1,2,4), (d), (e); 3.4 (c)(1-3); 4.4; 8.1 (a), (b); 8.4 (a), (b), (c)

www.vsb.org/docs/Wright-040218.pdf

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Terry Richard Driskill

Hopewell, Virginia
18-031-110979

On June 5, 2018, the Third District, Section I Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar issued a public reprimand with terms to Terry Richard Driskill for violating professional rules that govern competence, diligence, and communication. This was an agreed disposition of misconduct charges. RPC 1.1; 1.3 (a); 1.4 (a)

www.vsb.org/docs/Driskill-060518.pdf

Jahangir Ghobadi

Sterling, Virginia
18-052-110740

On May 25, 2018, the Fifth District, Section II Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar issued a public reprimand without terms to Jahangir Ghobadi for violating professional rules that govern candor toward the tribunal and bar admission and disciplinary matters. This was an agreed disposition of misconduct charges. RPC 3.3 (a)(4); 8.1 (a)

www.vsb.org/docs/Ghobadi-052918.pdf

Thomas Brian Haddock

Fairfax, Virginia
17-051-108077

On May 30, 2018, the Fifth District, Section I Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar issued a public reprimand with terms to Thomas Brian Haddock for violating professional rules that govern competence, scope of representation, diligence,

communication, safekeeping of property, and declining or terminating representation. This was an agreed disposition of misconduct charges. RPC 1.1; 1.2 (a); 1.3 (a); 1.4 (a), (b), (c); 1.15 (a)(1), (b)(1, 3), (c)(1, 2), (d)(2-4); 1.16 (a)(2) www.vsb.org/docs/Haddock-053118.pdf

Christopher Broughton Shedlick

Falls Church, Virginia
18-053-109901, 18-053-110818

On May 22, 2018, the Fifth District, Section III Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar issued a public reprimand with terms to Christopher Broughton Shedlick for violating professional rules that govern safekeeping property and misconduct. This was an agreed disposition of misconduct charges. RPC 1.15 (b)

(1, 5), (c)(2), (d)(3-4); 8.4 (a) www.vsb.org/docs/Shedlick-052318.pdf

Melvin Lorenzo Todd Jr.

Richmond, Virginia
17-032-107501

On May 21, 2018, the Third District, Section II Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar issued a public reprimand without terms to Melvin Lorenzo Todd Jr. for violating professional rules that govern diligence and communication. This was an agreed disposition of misconduct charges. RPC 1.3 (a), (b); 1.4 (a), (b)

www.vsb.org/docs/Todd-052218.pdf

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

Suspension – Failure to Pay Disciplinary Costs

		Effective Date	Lifted
William Lee Andrews III	Roanoke, VA	June 1, 2018	
Brent Lavelle Barbour	Lynchburg, VA	June 5, 2018	
Andrew Ira Becker	Virginia Beach, VA	April 12, 2018	
Ana Maria Cuitino	McLean, VA	May 31, 2018	
Jonathan David Esten	Manassas, VA	May 2, 2018	
Karen M. Kennedy	Fredericksburg, VA	May 22, 2018	
Nancy Beth White	Manakin-Sabot, VA	April 10, 2018	

Suspension – Failure to Comply with Subpoena

		Effective Date	Lifted
Jason Michael Breneman	Ashland, VA	May 15, 2018	May 17, 2018
William Franklin Burton	Chevy Chase, MD	June 4, 2018	
Cynthia Ann King	Virginia Beach, VA	May 14, 2018	
John James McNally	Norfolk, VA	May 31, 2018	

NOTICES TO MEMBERS

PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

On April 12, 2018, the Supreme Court of Virginia denied Anne Marston Lynch Wilber (formerly Anne Marston Lynch) of Portsmouth, VA, her petition for the reinstatement of her law license.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES PENDING APPROVAL BY SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

At its June 14, 2018, meeting, VSB Council voted to send Proposed LEO 1889 http://www.vsb.org/site/regulation/leo_1889 and Rule 1.1, Comment 7, to the Supreme Court of Virginia for final approval. www.vsb.org/pro-guidelines/index.php/rule_changes/item/revisions_to_rule_1.1_competence

Council also voted to send three amendments to Paragraph 13 to the Supreme Court. www.vsb.org/pro-guidelines/index.php/rule_changes/item/paragraph_13_1_and_13_9

www.vsb.org/pro-guidelines/index.php/rule_changes/item/para_13-23_impaired

www.vsb.org/pro-guidelines/index.php/rule_changes/item/para_13-1_13-30_lawyer_assistance

SUPREME COURT AND THE COURT OF APPEALS ANNOUNCE TWO-YEAR MEDIATION PILOT PROJECT

On June 13, the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Court of Appeals of Virginia announced that they would begin two-year mediation pilot projects beginning January 1, 2019. www.vsb.org/site/news/item/virginias_appellate_courts_announce_mediation_pilot_projects

LOWER HEALTH INSURANCE RATES FOR SOLO PRACTITIONERS

Solo practitioner? You may be able to lower your health insurance rates while getting better coverage with the passage of SB 672. More information: http://www.vsb.org/site/news/item/solo_practitioners_health_insurance

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR TWO PRO BONO AWARDS

The Access to Legal Services Committee of the Virginia State Bar is seeking nominations for the Lewis F. Powell Jr. Pro Bono Award and the Frankie Muse Freeman Organizational Pro Bono Award. The nomination deadline is August 1, 2018. www.vsb.org/site/sections/pro_bono/awards

DUES STATEMENTS MAILED

Dues statements were mailed June 15. The annual dues must be received at the Virginia State Bar by July 31, or delinquency fees will be assessed. All active members must pay the Clients' Protection Fund assessment and provide a completed and signed Mandatory Certification Regarding Professional Liability Insurance, also by July 31. Separate fines will be assessed for unpaid dues, unpaid CPF fees, and incomplete liability insurance certifications. You may renew your membership, certify your liability insurance coverage, join VSB sections, and pay your dues online by going to Member Login on the VSB home page. Corporate Counsel Registrants may also use this feature.

What's Different on Your Dues Statement this Year?

The **Clients' Protections Fund** annual assessment on active Virginia lawyers has changed from \$25 to \$10.

The rules and requirements behind **emeritus** designation have changed to encourage more lawyers to consider it. See page 45 for more information.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Volunteers are needed to serve the Virginia State Bar's boards and committees. The Nominating Committee will refer nominees to

the VSB Council for consideration at its October meeting. All appointments are made by the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Vacancies in 2019 are listed below. All appointments or elections will be for the terms specified, beginning on July 1, 2019.

Council Members at Large: 4 lawyer vacancies (of which 2 incumbents are not eligible for reappointment, 1 incumbent is eligible for reappointment to a second term and 1 incumbent has resigned). May serve 2 consecutive 3-year terms.

Disciplinary Board: 6 lawyer vacancies and 1 lay member vacancy (of which 4 lawyer members are not eligible for reappointment and 2 current members are eligible for reappointment to a second term, and 1 lay member is eligible for reappointment). District committee service is required. May serve 2 consecutive 3-year terms.

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board: 3 lawyer vacancies (of which 2 members are not eligible for reappointment and 1 current member is eligible for reappointment to a second term). May serve 2 consecutive 3-year terms.

Nominations, along with a brief résumé, should be sent by **September 7, 2018**, to Doris Henderson Causey, Chair, VSB Nominating Committee, Virginia State Bar, 1111 E. Main St., Suite 700, Richmond, VA 23219-0026, or emailed to nominations@vsb.org.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR CLIENTS' PROTECTION FUND BOARD AWARDS \$19,440.00 TO FORMER CLIENTS

The Virginia State Bar Clients' Protection Fund Board awarded \$13,640.00 in reimbursement to former clients of three Virginia attorneys at its most recent meeting on May 4, 2018. In addition, the board authorized payments totaling \$5,800.00 to former clients of Karen M. Kennedy and Jud Andrew Fischel, whose claims were approved in January 2018, but subject to a reconsideration request by the subject attorneys, then affirmed in May 2018. Details of the payments are:

Docket Number	Respondent's Name	Address of Record	Amount Paid	Type of Case
18-555-003124	Karen M. Kennedy	Fredericksburg, VA	\$3,300.00	Unearned fees/ Consumer Law
18-555-003126	Jud Andrew Fischel	Warrenton, VA	\$2,500.00	Unearned fees/ Civil Law - State
18-555-003142	Jean Jerome Dandy Ngando Ekwalla	Richmond, VA	\$2,250.00	Unearned fees/Landlord/Tenant
18-555-003146	Karen M. Kennedy	Fredericksburg, VA	\$6,190.00	Unearned fees/Consumer Credit/ Real Estate
18-555-003150	John Fredrick McGarvey	Glen Allen, VA	\$3,200.00	Unearned fees/Criminal Law
18-555-003160	John Fredrick McGarvey	Glen Allen, VA	\$2,000.00	Unearned fees/Criminal Law

The Virginia State Bar Clients' Protection Fund was created by the Supreme Court of Virginia in 1976 to reimburse persons who suffer a financial loss because of dishonest conduct by a Virginia lawyer. Awards from the Clients' Protection Fund are discretionary and are not a matter of right. The fund is not taxpayer funded, but is funded by Virginia lawyers who are assessed an annual fee of up to \$25. For more information on the fund, go to <https://www.vsb.org/site/public/clients-protection-fund>.

If you have any questions, you may contact Vivian R. Byrd, Administrator to Clients' Protection Fund, at (804) 775-0572 or email cpf@vsb.org.