

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ON GRIEVANCES AND DISCIPLINE OF  
THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

RECEIVED

OCT 16 2014

In re:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE

Complaint against

Ronald Robinson, Esq.  
4137 Feiner Dr.  
Cleveland, OH 44122

No. 14-083-34

Attorney Registration No. (0029934)

COMPLAINT AND CERTIFICATE

Respondent,

(Rule V of the Supreme Court Rules for  
the Government of the Bar of Ohio.)

Disciplinary Counsel  
250 Civic Center Drive, Suite 325  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-7411

FILED

OCT 31 2014

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ON GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE

Relator.

Now comes relator, Disciplinary Counsel, and alleges that respondent, Ronald Robinson, an attorney at law, duly admitted to the practice of law in the State of Ohio, is guilty of the following misconduct:

1. Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Ohio on November 4, 1985.
2. As an attorney, respondent is subject to the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.
3. On September 30, 1998, the Supreme Court of Ohio suspended respondent from the practice of law for six months; however, respondent's suspension was entirely stayed on condition that he successfully complete two years of monitored probation. To date,

respondent has not applied for termination of his monitored probation, and technically, he remains under probation to this day.

4. On February 14, 2013, respondent was interimly suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V(6a).
5. On October 17, 2013, respondent was indefinitely suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V(6a). Respondent remains suspended from the practice of law pursuant to this suspension.
6. On November 1, 2013, respondent was suspended from the practice of law for failing to file a Certificate of Registration and failing to pay applicable attorney registration fees. Respondent remains suspended from the practice of law pursuant to this suspension.
7. On April 4, 2014, relator received a grievance against respondent from Joey Bullock.
8. According to Bullock's grievance, he signed a Power of Attorney in favor of respondent in or about 2011; however, he has had limited contact with respondent since that time.
9. Upon further investigation, relator determined that Bullock was a long time friend and former client of respondent. Sometime in 2013, Bullock learned that respondent had been suspended from the practice of law. Bullock attempted to contact respondent with regard to the power of attorney matter, but was unable to reach him.
10. Unsure of what respondent's suspension from the practice of law meant, Bullock took steps to have the 2011 Power of Attorney revoked; however, he wanted to have the original Power of Attorney in his possession.
11. Bullock requested that respondent return the original Power of Attorney to him. Although respondent promised that he would, he failed to do so.

12. On May 14, 2014, relator sent respondent a Letter of Inquiry regarding Bullock's grievance. This letter was sent via certified mail to respondent's residence address since respondent no longer maintained the office address listed in his attorney registration. Respondent failed to claim relator's letter from the United States Postal Service (USPS); therefore, the letter was returned to relator on or about June 5, 2014.
13. On June 10, 2014, relator's investigator attempted to hand-deliver a Letter of Inquiry to respondent regarding Bullock's grievance. At the time that relator's investigator presented himself at respondent's residence, respondent was either not home and/or chose not to answer the door. Accordingly, relator's investigator taped the Letter of Inquiry to the front door of respondent's residence.
14. On June 11, 2014, relator's investigator again presented himself at respondent's address. The Letter of Inquiry that he had taped to the door the previous day was still affixed to the door.
15. As of July 17, 2014, relator still had not heard from respondent regarding Bullock's grievance. Accordingly, relator had its investigator hand-deliver a Second Letter of Inquiry to respondent regarding Bullock's grievance.
16. On July 17, 2014, relator's investigator presented himself at respondent's address. Relator's investigator knocked on the front door, and a woman, who identified herself as Mrs. Robinson, came to the door. The woman refused, however, to open the door or to accept service of the letter. Accordingly, relator's investigator taped the letter to the front door of respondent's residence.
17. On July 18, 2014, relator's investigator attempted to reach respondent via telephone. A woman, who identified herself as Mrs. Robinson, answered the phone. She informed

relator's investigator that she was divorced from respondent, that respondent no longer lived with her, and that she did not know how to contact him.

18. Later that same day, relator also tried to call respondent. The call was transferred to voicemail, which stated, "You have reached the home of Carol and Ronald Robinson..." Relator left a message for respondent on the voicemail; however, respondent failed to return relator's call.
19. On July 18, 2014, relator also sent an email regarding Bullock's grievance to respondent's last known email address. Relator asked respondent to contact relator immediately upon receipt of the email; however, respondent failed to respond to relator's email.
20. On July 22, 2014, relator's investigator again attempted to hand-deliver a letter to respondent regarding Bullock's grievance. At the time that relator's investigator presented himself at respondent's residence address, respondent was either not home and/or chose not to answer the door. Accordingly, relator's investigator taped the letter to the front door of respondent's residence.
21. On July 23, 2014, relator's investigator returned to respondent's residence address to see if the letter he taped to the front door on July 22, 2014 was still affixed to the door. Upon arriving at respondent's residence, relator's investigator noticed that the letter had been removed. Relator's investigator also noticed that a car registered to respondent was parked in the driveway. Accordingly, relator's investigator knocked on the front door. When no one answered at the front door, relator's investigator went to the back door and knocked.

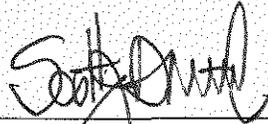
22. Respondent answered the back door. Respondent advised relator's investigator that he had received the July 22, 2014 letter and that he would respond appropriately.
23. On July 23, 2014, following the visit from relator's investigator, respondent called relator.
24. During this call, respondent informed relator that he met Bullock "a while ago" and that Bullock had given him a Power of Attorney. He stated that Bullock had recently contacted him and requested that the original Power of Attorney be returned to him. He stated that he spent 1 ½ hours looking for the original Power of Attorney, but could not find it. He believed that it may be in the basement of his home with files he had removed from his office.
25. Relator advised respondent to make his best efforts to locate the Power of Attorney and return it to Bullock. Relator also advised respondent that he was required to provide a written response to Bullock's grievance. Relator gave respondent two weeks to do so; however, respondent stated that he would provide his written response to relator in a week or less. Finally, relator provided respondent with an email address to provide his written response and confirmed respondent's email address with him.
26. As of August 15, 2014, relator still had not received a written response from respondent. Accordingly, relator sent respondent a letter via regular, certified, and electronic mail. The certified letter was returned unclaimed on or about September 19, 2014; however, to the best of relator's knowledge, respondent received the copies of the letters that were sent via regular and electronic mail.
27. On September 8, 2014, relator made a final attempt to reach respondent regarding Bullock's grievance by having its investigator hand-deliver another letter to respondent.

When relator's investigator presented himself at respondent's residence, respondent was either not home and/or chose not to answer the door. Accordingly, relator's investigator taped the letter to the front door.

28. To date, relator has not received any information from respondent regarding Bullock's grievance.
29. Respondent's conduct as outlined above violates the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio, specifically: Prof. Cond. R. 1.4(a)(4) (requiring a lawyer to comply as soon as practicable with reasonable requests for information from the client); Prof. Cond. R. 1.16(d) (requiring a lawyer to promptly deliver client papers and property upon the termination of a representation); Prof. Cond. R. 8.1(b) (prohibiting a lawyer from knowingly failing to respond to a demand for information from a disciplinary authority); and Gov. Bar R. V(4)(G) (requiring a lawyer to cooperate in a disciplinary investigation).

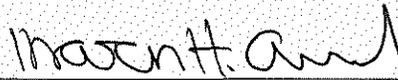
## CONCLUSION

Wherefore, pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V and the Rules of Professional Conduct, relator alleges that respondent is chargeable with misconduct. Accordingly, relator requests that respondent be disciplined pursuant to Rule V of the Rules of the Government of the Bar of Ohio.



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Scott J. Drexel (0091467)  
Disciplinary Counsel



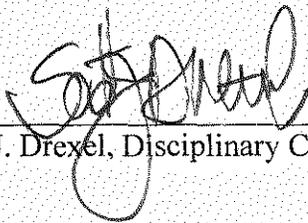
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Karen H. Osmond (0082202)  
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel  
250 Civic Center Drive, Suite 325  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-7411  
614.461.0256  
614.461.7205 – fax  
Karen.Osmond@sc.ohio.gov

## CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Scott J. Drexel, Disciplinary Counsel, of the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of the Supreme Court of Ohio hereby certifies that Karen H. Osmond is duly authorized to represent relator in the premises and has accepted the responsibility of prosecuting the complaint to its conclusion. After investigation, relator believes reasonable cause exists to warrant a hearing on such complaint.

Dated: October 16, 2014

  
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Scott J. Drexel, Disciplinary Counsel

### **Gov. Bar R. V, § 4(I) Requirements for Filing a Complaint.**

(1) Definition. "Complaint" means a formal written allegation of misconduct or mental illness of a person designated as the respondent.

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(7) Complaint Filed by Certified Grievance Committee. Six copies of all complaints shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board. Complaints filed by a Certified Grievance Committee shall be filed in the name of the committee as relator. The complaint shall not be accepted for filing unless signed by one or more attorneys admitted to the practice of law in Ohio, who shall be counsel for the relator. The complaint shall be accompanied by a written certification, signed by the president, secretary, or chair of the Certified Grievance Committee, that the counsel are authorized to represent the relator in the action and have accepted the responsibility of prosecuting the complaint to conclusion. The certification shall constitute the authorization of the counsel to represent the relator in the action as fully and completely as if designated and appointed by order of the Supreme Court with all the privileges and immunities of an officer of the Supreme Court. The complaint also may be signed by the grievant.

(8) Complaint Filed by Disciplinary Counsel. Six copies of all complaints shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board. Complaints filed by the Disciplinary Counsel shall be filed in the name of the Disciplinary Counsel as relator.

(9) Service. Upon the filing of a complaint with the Secretary of the Board, the relator shall forward a copy of the complaint to the Disciplinary Counsel, the Certified Grievance Committee of the Ohio State Bar Association, the local bar association, and any Certified Grievance Committee serving the county or counties in which the respondent resides and maintains an office and for the county from which the complaint arose.