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SEP 23 2016

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

IN RE: COMPLAINT AGAINST
JOHN HAROLD LARGE
1569 Woodland Avenue NE Suite 1
Warren, Ohio 44483
Attorney Registration No. 0068732

CASE NO. _____

16 - 045

FILED

OCT 04 2016

Respondent

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
COMPLAINT AND CERTIFICATE

TRUMBULL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
CERTIFIED GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
120 High Street NW
P. O. Box 4222
Warren, Ohio 44482

(RULE V OF THE SUPREME COURT
RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE BAR OF OHIO)

Relator

1. Now comes the Relator and says that Respondent, John Harold Large, Attorney Registration No. 0068732, was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Ohio on November 10, 1997.

2. Respondent is subject to the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio and has heretofore been given notice of the allegations of this Complaint and the opportunity to respond thereto.

3. Respondent has heretofore twice been subject to discipline and sanction by the Supreme Court of Ohio, to wit:

(a) On May 6, 2009, in **Disciplinary Counsel v. John Harold Large, (2009) 122 Ohio St. 3d 35**, the Ohio Supreme Court suspended Respondent from the practice of law for a

period of one year. Relator says that Respondent was reinstated to the practice of law by the Ohio Supreme Court on February 18, 2011.

(b) On November 29, 2012, in ***Trumbull County Bar Association v John Harold Large, (2011) 134 Ohio St. 3d 172***, the Ohio Supreme Court suspended Respondent from the practice of law for a period of two years with the final six months stayed with conditions. Relator says that Respondent was reinstated to the practice of law by the Ohio Supreme Court on June 22, 2014.

4. This Complaint is filed as a result of investigations conducted by the Trumbull County Bar Association Certified Grievance Committee and a majority of the Committee members constituting a quorum determining that this Complaint is warranted.

5. Respondent is a solo practitioner whose present office address is 1569 Woodland Avenue NE, Suite 1, Warren, Ohio 44483

COUNT ONE

THE SUSAN SEARGEANT MATTER

6. Respondent was retained via a telephone call on or about December 11, 2015 by Susan Seargeant (Seargeant) of Morgantown, West Va. to represent her to collect a judgment she had against Sharon Cook and also in a second matter before the Magistrate of the Warren, Ohio Municipal Court seeking money from Sharon Cook for loans Seargeant claimed to have made to Cook.

7. Respondent agreed to represent Sergeant on a contingency fee basis of one-third of any sums collected and Sergeant was to be responsible for any expenses. Respondent entered an appearance on behalf of Sergeant in the Warren Municipal Court on December 14, 2015 and also filed a motion to continue the trial set for December 16, 2015. Sergeant sent Respondent all of her documents that she says supported her claims against Cook and did not retain copies for herself.

8. Sergeant's case against Cook was set for Magistrate bench trial in the Warren Municipal Court on March 2, 2016. On March 1, 2016 Respondent filed a motion to continue the trial because he claimed to have a criminal case scheduled for the same date and time in the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. Respondent did not notify Sergeant of this schedule conflict or the motion for continuance and Sergeant traveled from Morgantown, West Va. for the trial, only to learn upon her arrival at Warren Municipal Court that Respondent would not be appearing on her behalf and that the case would not be going forward.

9. Sergeant's case was then rescheduled for Magistrate bench trial in the Warren Municipal Court for March 23, 2016. Sergeant spoke with Respondent by telephone and Respondent assured Sergeant that he would be at the trial on March 23, 2016 to represent her.

10. Sergeant appeared for the trial on March 23, 2016 in the Warren Municipal Court but Respondent did not appear. The Magistrate called the case for trial and Sergeant was required to represent herself and without the benefit of her documents to support her claims, as such were in the possession of the Respondent.

11. On March 24, 2016 Respondent filed a notice of withdrawal as counsel for Seargeant and represented that such was being done at Sergeant's request, and Respondent sent Seargeant a letter returning all of their documents.

12. on April 5, 2016 the Magistrate of the Warren Municipal Court entered a decision which was contrary to what Seargeant believed that it should have been.

13. Seargeant contacted Respondent concerning the adverse decision and Respondent agreed to file objections to the decision and in fact did so but the objections were overruled by the Court on June 13, 2016 as being "wholly without merit"

14. On May 17, 2016 Seargeant filed a grievance against Respondent with Relator. The grievance was assigned for investigation to Trumbull County Bar Association Certified Grievance Committee member Robert Root. Respondent was provided with notice of the grievance filing, a copy of the grievance, notified that the investigation was assigned to Root for investigation and was specifically reminded of his duty to fully cooperate in the investigation as required by Gov Bar R V, § 4 (g).

15. Upon receipt the grievance file Root interviewed Seargeants by telephone and Respondent in person.

17. Respondent's conduct as described in Count One herein violates the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct, to-wit:

(A) Rule 1.3 a lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

(B) Rule 1.4 (a) A lawyer shall do all of the following: (3) keep the client informed about the status of the matter.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, pursuant to Gov. Bar R. V and the Rules of Professional Conduct, Relator says that Respondent is chargeable with misconduct and requests that the Respondent be disciplined pursuant to Rule V of the Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.

TRUMBULL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

By 

RANDIL J. RUDLOFF #0005590
BAR COUNSEL FOR RELATOR
TRUMBULL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
CERTIFIED GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
151 East Market Street, P. O. Box 4270
Warren, Ohio 44482
Phone: (330) 393-1584

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Kevin P. Murphy, Chairman of the Trumbull County Bar Association Certified Grievance Committee hereby certifies that Randil J. Rudloff is authorized to prosecute the Complaint herein to its conclusion. After investigation, Relator believes reasonable cause exists to warrant a hearing on such complaint.

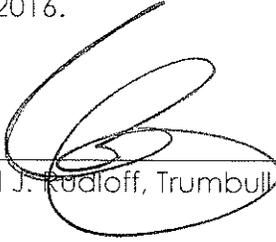
Dated: September 19 2016



KEVIN P. MURPHY, CHAIRMAN
TRUMBULL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
CERTIFIED GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of the foregoing Complaint was served upon Respondent by Certified and ordinary U.S. Mail the 22 day of September 2016.



Randil J. Rudloff, Trumbull County Bar Counsel