



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Michael P. Bowler, *Statewide Bar Counsel*

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Judicial Branch Website: www.jud.ct.gov

Attorney Patricia King
First Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
100 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Attorney Howard Lawrence
Law Office of Howard A. Lawrence
181 Edwards Street
New Haven, CT 06511

RE: Grievance Complaint #08-0281, Bowler v. Lawrence

Dear First Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent:

Pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b), the undersigned, duly-appointed reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee, has reviewed the *Proposed Disposition Pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(b)* (hereinafter "*Proposed Disposition*") filed May 13, 2009 and submitted for approval in the above referenced matter. After careful consideration of the *Proposed Disposition*, the *Affidavit* of the Respondent submitted pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(d) and the entire record of the complaint, and after conducting a hearing pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b) on May 13, 2009, the undersigned hereby APPROVE the *Proposed Disposition*, a copy of which is attached hereto together with the *Affidavit* of the Respondent. Accordingly, the disposition agreed to by the First Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and the Respondent in the above referenced matter and set forth in the *Proposed Disposition* is hereby made an order of this reviewing committee. The Respondent is hereby reprimanded.

So ordered.

DECISION DATE: 6/2/09

cc: Michael Bowler
Attorney Michael Georgetti
Attorney M. Dean Montgomery

(D)
EMR

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Decision

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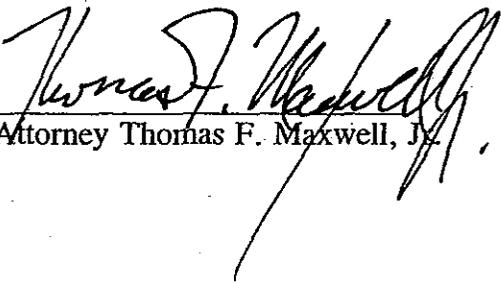


Attorney Salvatore DePiano

Grievance Complaint #08-0281

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Attorney Thomas F. Maxwell, Jr.

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Ms. Dahlia Johnston

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

MICHAEL BOWLER
Complainant

v.

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT #
08-0281

HOWARD LAWRENCE
Respondent

PROPOSED DISPOSITION PURSUANT TO PRACTICE BOOK § 2-82(b)

Pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(b), and Practice Book § 2-82 (a) (1), the undersigned Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Howard Lawrence (hereinafter Respondent), juris number 102367, was admitted to the bar of the State of Connecticut on November 7, 1983 and has a disciplinary history consisting of five prior reprimands.
2. The Respondent has been reprimanded as follows:

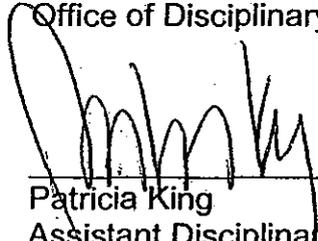
Gambardella v. Lawrence, No. 89-0657, 2/21/91;
Smith v. Lawrence, No. 89-0727B, 2/21/91;
Carcello v. Lawrence, No. 02-0390, 2/6/04;
Brooks v. Lawrence, No. 02-0440, 7/21/07; *OSR MDR*
Cordiero v. Lawrence, No. 04-0283; 8/18/05
3. The Respondent has registered with the Statewide Grievance Committee for 2009 and is currently in good standing.
4. This matter was instituted by grievance complaint dated March 26, 2008.
5. On July 31 2008, the New Haven Judicial District Grievance Panel found probable cause that the Respondent violated Rule 1.15(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Practice Book §2-27 (a), (b), 1, 2, and 3. On December 5, 2008 a reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee found additional probable cause that the Respondent violated Rules 8.4(3) and 8.4(4) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
6. The Respondent has tendered an affidavit pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(d)

attached hereto, and admits that he commingled his personal funds with his clients' funds in the Clients' Funds Account and that this conduct violated Rule 1.15 (b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Practice Book § 2-27 (a).

7. The Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel agree that the Respondent will be reprimanded pursuant to Practice Book §2-37(a).
8. The Respondent and the Disciplinary Counsel agree that the Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that the Statewide Grievance Committee impose the sanction set forth in this agreement. If this agreement is rejected by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the admission of misconduct and the proposed disposition shall be withdrawn, shall not be made public, and shall not be used against the Respondent in any further proceedings. In that event, the matter shall be referred for further proceedings to a different reviewing committee, pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b).

WHEREFORE, this matter is submitted to the Statewide Grievance Committee for its consideration, possible acceptance and disposition in accordance with Practice Book § 2-82(b).

Office of Disciplinary Counsel,



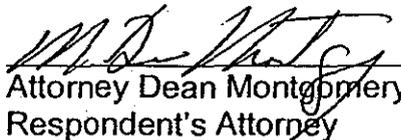
By: Patricia King
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

5/13/09

Date

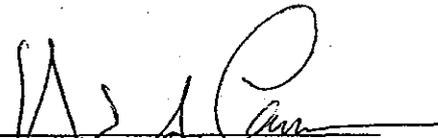
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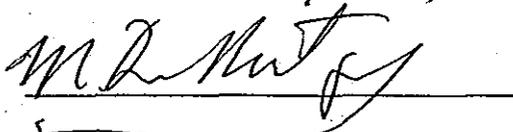
Attorney Dean Montgomery
Respondent's Attorney

6. I admit that I commingled my personal funds with my clients' funds in my clients' funds account and that this conduct violated Rule 1.15 (b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Practice Book § 2-27 (a).
7. I agree that the Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that I be reprimanded pursuant to Practice Book §2-37(a).
8. I agree that the Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that the Statewide Grievance Committee impose the sanction set forth in this agreement. If this agreement is rejected by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the admission of misconduct and the proposed disposition shall be withdrawn, shall not be made public, and shall not be used against the Respondent in any further proceedings. In that event, the matter shall be referred for further proceedings to a different reviewing committee, pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b).
9. The foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Howard Lawrence

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This 15th day of May, 2004



Notary Public
Commissioner of the Superior Court