

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



Michael P. Bowler
Statewide Bar Counsel

Frances Mickelson-Dera
Christopher L. Slack
First Assistant Bar Counsel

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STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

www.jud.ct.gov/sgc/
Second Floor - Suite Two
287 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06118-1885

03/29/2011

OFFICE OF CHIEF DISCIPLINARY C
100 WASHINGTON STREET
HARTFORD CT 06106

JOEL SAMUEL PAUL
RAMEY & HAILEY
9333 N. MERIDIAN STREET
SUITE 105
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46260

RE: GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT #10-0351
HTFD JD GA13 ETC GRIEV PANEL vs. PAUL

Dear Respondent and Disciplinary Counsel:

Enclosed herewith is the decision of the reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee concerning the above referenced matter. In accordance with the Practice Book Sections 2-35, 2-36 and 2-38(a), the Respondent may, within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice, submit to the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the decision.

A request for review must be sent to the Statewide Grievance Committee at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Bowler

Encl.

cc: Attorney Gregory A. Benoit
HORTON SHIELDS & KNOX P.C.
HTFD JD GA13 ETC GRIEV PANEL

NOTICE REGARDING DECISION
SANCTIONS OR CONDITIONS

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT # 10-0351

THE ATTACHED DECISION IS PRESENTLY STAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRACTICE BOOK §§2-35 AND 2-38.

SECTION 2-35 STATES, IN PART, AS FOLLOWS:

(e) ... Enforcement of the final decision ... shall be stayed for thirty days from the date of the issuance to the parties of the final decision. In the event the respondent timely submits to the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the final decision of the reviewing committee, such stay shall remain in full force and effect pursuant to Section 2-38(b).

SECTION 2-38 STATES, IN PART, AS FOLLOWS:

(b) ... Enforcement of a decision by a reviewing committee imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent ... shall be stayed for thirty days from the issuance to the parties of the final decision of the reviewing committee pursuant to Section 2-35(g). If within that period the respondent files with the Statewide Grievance Committee a request for review of the reviewing committee's decision, the stay shall remain in effect for thirty days from the issuance by the Statewide Grievance Committee of its final decision pursuant to Section 2-36. If the respondent timely commences an appeal [of the sanctions or conditions to the Superior Court] pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, such stay shall remain in full force and effect until the conclusion of all proceedings, including all appeals, relating to the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent. If at the conclusion of all proceedings, the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent is rescinded, the complaint shall be deemed dismissed as of the date of the decision imposing sanctions or conditions against the respondent.

DECISION DATE: 3/29/11



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Michael P. Bowler, *Statewide Bar Counsel*

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Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel
100 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Attorney Joel S. Paul
Ramey & Hailey
9333 N. Meridian Street, Suite 105
Indianapolis, IN 46260

RE: Grievance Complaint #10-0351, Hartford Judicial District Grievance Panel for Geographical Area 13 and the town of Hartford v. Paul

Dear Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent:

Pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b), the undersigned, duly-appointed reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee, have reviewed the *Proposed Disposition Pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b)* (hereinafter "*Proposed Disposition*") filed January 14, 2011 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 February 10, 2011, 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 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 reprimanded and is ordered to take one continuing legal education ("CLE") course, with a minimum of three hours of legal ethics or professional responsibility, within six months of the date of this decision. Internet or other "distance" type CLE is not eligible. The Respondent is to provide the Statewide Grievance Committee and the Disciplinary Counsel with written confirmation of his compliance with this condition within thirty days of completion of the CLE course. The Respondent further agrees to seek admission to the Indiana Bar.

There was a vacancy in the lay member position of the reviewing committee for the February 10, 2011 hearing. The Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and the Respondent waived the participation of a lay member in the consideration and decision of the *Proposed Disposition*. Accordingly, the matter was considered and decided by the undersigned.

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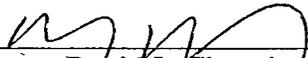
So ordered.

cc: Attorney John Quinn
Attorney Gregory Benoit
Attorney Kim Knox

(8)
asc

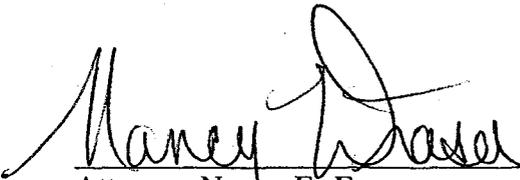
DECISION DATE: 3/29/11

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Attorney David I. Channing

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Attorney Nancy E. Fraser

HARTFORD PANEL
Complainant

v.
JOEL S. PAUL
Respondent

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT # 10-0351

JANUARY 7, 2011

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

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

1. Joel S. Paul (hereinafter Respondent) is admitted to the Connecticut bar juris number 422921, and is currently in good standing.

2. Grievance #10-0351 was instituted by complaint dated April 13, 2010.

3. On May 27, 2010, the Grievance Panel for the Windham Judicial District found probable cause as to Grievance Complaint #10-0351 that the Respondent violated Rules 1.2(a), 1.4(a)(1), 1.4(a)(3), 1.4(a)(4), 1.4(b), 1.5(a), 1.5(b), 1.5(c), 1.15(b), 1.15(e), 5.5, 8.1(1), 8.1(2), 8.4(1), 8.4(2), 8.4(3) and 8.4(4) of the Rules of Professional Conduct based upon its findings that Respondent:

4. The Respondent has tendered an affidavit pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(d) attached hereto, and although the Respondent denies some or all of the material facts in the complaint, he acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence to prove by clear and convincing evidence the material facts constituting a violation of Rules 1.2 and 1.4.

5. The Respondent and the Disciplinary Counsel agree that the Respondent will be reprimanded pursuant to P.B. §2-37(a) and will take one continuing legal education course, with a minimum of three hours of legal ethics or professional responsibility within six (6) months of the approval of this agreement. Internet or other "distance" type CLE is not eligible. In addition, Respondent will seek admission to the Indiana bar.

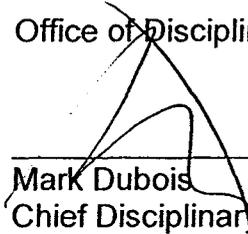
6. The Respondent and the Disciplinary Counsel agree that Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that the Statewide Grievance Committee impose the sanction set forth in this agreement. If this agreement is rejected by the Statewide Grievance Committee, the admission of misconduct and the proposed disposition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

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

Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Date 1/4/11

By:


Mark Dubois
Chief Disciplinary Counsel

Date 1/7/11


Joel S. Paul
Respondent

Date 1/11/11


Joel S. Paul, by Kimberly Knox
His Attorney

HARTFORD PANEL
Complainant
v.

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT # 10-0351

JOEL S. PAUL
Respondent

JANUARY 7, 2011

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF INDIANA)
 : ss:
COUNTY OF Marion)

I am over the age of 18 and believe in the obligation of an oath. Pursuant to Practice Book § 2-82(d), I make the following affidavit:

1. The Admission of Misconduct attached hereto and made a part hereof is voluntarily submitted.
2. I hereby consent to this matter being tendered to a reviewing committee of the Statewide Grievance Committee for consideration, possible acceptance and disposition.
3. I am aware that I have right to a full evidentiary hearing on this matter and I waive that right by entering into this agreement.
4. I have been neither subject to coercion nor duress and I am fully aware of the consequences of this Affidavit and Proposed Disposition. I am represented by counsel in this matter, and have consulted with her with regard to this matter.
5. I am aware of the current proceedings regarding my alleged violation of Rules 1.2(a), 1.4(a)(1), 1.4(a)(3), 1.4(a)(4), 1.4(b), 1.5(a), 1.5(b), 1.5(c), 1.15(b), 1.15(e), 5.5, 8.1(1), 8.1(2), 8.4(1), 8.4(2), 8.4(3) and 8.4(4).
6. Although I deny some or all of the material facts in the complaint, I acknowledge that there is sufficient evidence to prove by clear and convincing evidence the material facts constituting a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, in particular, Rules 1.2 and 1.4.
7. I agree that the Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that I be reprimanded and I will take one continuing legal education course, with a minimum of three hours of legal ethics or professional responsibility within six (6) months of the approval of this agreement. Internet or other "distance" type CLE is not eligible. In addition, I further agree to seek admission to the Indiana bar.
8. I agree that the Disciplinary Counsel will recommend that the Statewide Grievance Committee impose the sanction of reprimand 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 proceeding. In that event, the matter shall be referred for further proceedings to a different reviewing committee, pursuant to P.B. §2-82.

9. The foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of January, 2011.

Dated: 1/7/11

Joel S. Paul
Respondent

Subscribed and sworn to before this

7th day of January, 2011.

Denise C. Mahoney
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 3/6/2017