



STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

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Second Floor – Suite Two

287 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06118-1885

Attorney Frank P. Blando
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
80 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Attorney James J. Hess
9 Mott Avenue – Suite 210
Norwalk, CT 06850

RE: Grievance Complaint #04-0056, Arena v. Hess

Dear 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 *Conditional Admission and Agreement as to Discipline* filed July 6, 2004 and submitted for approval in the above referenced matter. After careful consideration of the *Conditional Admission and Agreement as to Discipline*, the affidavit of the Respondent submitted pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(c) and the entire record, and after conducting a hearing pursuant to Practice Book §2-82(b) on July 6, 2004, the undersigned hereby APPROVE the *Conditional Admission and Agreement as to Discipline*, a copy of which is attached hereto. Accordingly, the disposition agreed to by the Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and the Respondent in the above referenced matter and set forth in the *Conditional Admission and Agreement as to Discipline* is hereby made an order of this reviewing committee. The Respondent is reprimanded.

The second attorney position on this reviewing committee is vacant. The Assistant Disciplinary Counsel and the Respondent waived the participation of a secondary attorney in the consideration and decision of the *Conditional Admission and Agreement as to Discipline*. Accordingly, the matter was considered and decided by the undersigned.

So ordered.

cc: Robin L. Arena
Attorney Stephen J. Conover

(4)
(jf)

Grievance Complaint #04-0056

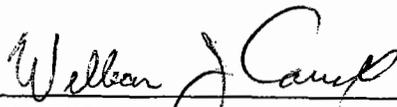
Decision

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Attorney Dominic J. Rutigliano

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Mr. William J. Carroll

STATEWIDE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

NO. 04-0056

ROBIN ARENA
Complainant

Vs.

JAMES J. HESS
Respondent

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION AND AGREEMENT AS TO DISCIPLINE

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

1. This matter was instituted by grievance complaint filed by the Complainant on January 14, 2004.
2. On March 31, 2004, the Stamford/Norwalk Grievance Panel found Probable Cause that the Respondent violated Rules 1.3, 1.4(a) &(b) and 1.16(d).
3. The Respondent has tendered a conditional admission of fact in accordance with his affidavit attached hereto, admitting the facts of the complaint.
4. It appears that the dispute between the Complainant and Respondent arose out of Respondent's busy schedule with several criminal matters at the same time he was attempting to file Complainant's Bankruptcy petition.
5. As a result of Respondent's busy schedule, he never actually filed Complainant's petition.
6. Respondent has been admitted to practice in Connecticut since August 24, 1992 and he does not have a history of grievance complaints which have resulted in the imposition of any discipline, and assures Disciplinary Counsel that this is an isolated matter.

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80 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06108
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Juris No. 422382



7. Disciplinary Counsel has agreed to recommend to the Statewide Grievance Committee that a **REPRIMAND** issue to the Respondent for violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct §§ 1.3 and 1.4(a) and that the alleged violations of Rules §§ 1.4(b) and 1.16 by **DISMISSED**.
8. Complainant has been consulted as to the proposed resolution of this matter and consents thereto.

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

7/6/04
Date

BY: Frank P. Blando
Frank P. Blando
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

Respondent

7/6/04
Date

James Jordan Hess
James Jordan Hess