

SANCTIONS AND ACTIONS AFFECTING LICENSURE (FY 2021)

ACKERMAN, Debra Lee – Suspension by Consent for sixty days on January 4, 2021, effective March 8, 2021, for knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent made numerous misrepresentations to Bar Counsel.

ADAMS, George R. – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on September 17, 2020, for failing to represent multiple immigration clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interests upon termination of his representation, failing to properly supervise a non-attorney assistant, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. The Respondent, who was not admitted to the Maryland Bar, failed to keep his clients informed concerning the status of their immigration applications, failed to supervise non-attorney staff members in their dealings with his clients, and failed to properly withdraw from representation upon his retirement. Respondent then approved and submitted letters providing misinformation to Bar Counsel during its investigation.

AKIN-DEKO, Oladipo Akinwunmi – Indefinite Suspension on September 24, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to appear for a motions hearing in a matter before the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, failed to respond to multiple orders to show cause, and failed to respond in any manner to disciplinary authorities.

AKPAN, Zionne – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on May 11, 2021, effective July 10, 2021, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping requirements, and making cash withdrawals from her attorney trust account. Over a two-year period, Respondent regularly deposited personal funds into her trust account, made numerous cash withdrawals from the account, and failed to maintain client matter records.

ARMSTRONG, Darryl Russel – Disbarred on November 20, 2020, effective immediately, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of the representation, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to obtain his client's informed consent, confirmed in writing, to hold the funds outside of trust, failing to promptly remove earned fees from his attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interests upon termination of his representation, failing to maintain fairness to opposing parties and counsel, knowingly making a false statement of material fact or law to a third person, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and

using trust money for purposes other than the purpose for which the money is entrusted. Respondent failed to take necessary and fundamental steps in cases, failed to respond to discovery, failed to appear at pre-trial conferences and hearings on behalf of clients, appeared at proceedings unprepared, abandoned representation of clients, failed to sufficiently and timely communicate with clients, failed to remit funds from clients' settlements to pay outstanding medical bills, failed to deposit and maintain client and third-party funds in an attorney trust account, failed to consult with clients or provide updates, charged fees and provided little to no legal services, entered into a contingency fee arrangement but failed to memorialize the agreement in writing signed by his client, failed to provide a settlement disbursement sheet to his client, provided inaccurate settlement disbursement sheets to clients, deposited trust funds into an account other than an attorney trust account without his clients' informed consent, failed to return unearned fees or to provide copies of files to clients, threatened to "blow up" a building in which a physical therapy facility that had filed a complaint against him was located, intentionally misappropriated settlement proceeds owed to clients or medical providers for his own personal use and benefit, made misrepresentations to clients and third parties, and fraudulently altered two checks.

BAKER, Kellee Genean – Reprimand by Consent on March 26, 2021, for failing to represent her client competently and diligently and for engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. In a civil suit filed against Respondent, her real estate company, and her client, Respondent evaded service and failed to respond to the complaint until after default judgments were entered and writs of garnishment were issued against all defendants.

BARNWELL, Sarah Ruth – Suspension by Consent for sixty days on March 3, 2021, effective April 2, 2021, for failing to represent her client competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of the representation, failing to adequately communicate with her client, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account and failing to obtain her client's informed consent, confirmed in writing, to hold the funds outside of trust, failing to take steps to protect her client's interest upon termination of the representation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and making cash withdrawals from her attorney trust account. Respondent failed to provide services as identified in her retainer agreement and failed to provide her client an accounting or return unearned fees.

BIRCH, Michael Scott – Disbarment by Consent on February 4, 2021, effective February 25, 2021, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Proceeds of a retirement account were deposited into Respondent's attorney trust account as attorney for an estate, and Respondent failed to identify the funds as estate property and misappropriated the funds for his own personal use and benefit. Respondent was subsequently criminally charged with embezzlement and theft.

BOHAN, Robert Z. – Disbarred by Consent on June 25, 2021, effective August 23, 2021, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and using trust money for purposes

other than the purpose for which the money is entrusted. Respondent misappropriated funds entrusted to him as a trustee and acted to conceal his misappropriation for many years by providing beneficiaries with falsified and incomplete accountings.

BURTON, William Franklin – Disbarment by Consent on October 13, 2020, effective immediately, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interests upon termination of his representation, failing to maintain fairness to opposing parties and counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. In the representation of several clients, Respondent failed to act with reasonable competence and diligence and failed to communicate adequately, including making false statements to some of the clients about the status of their matters. Respondent also failed to respond to Bar Counsel's requests for a response to each of the complaints filed against him.

CALDWELL, Melvin Joseph, Jr. – Commission Reprimand on December 21, 2020, for failing to adequately communicate with his client. Respondent was unaware that his client's retainer payment had been received due to internal office miscommunications and failed to stay in contact with his client regarding upcoming status conference dates. Upon receiving his client's executed retainer agreement and payment, Respondent failed to enter his appearance in his client's case, which resulted in Respondent not receiving court notifications.

CHANG, Sandy Yeh – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on January 19, 2021, effective immediately, for engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and failing to abide by the requirements of her prior suspension. Respondent engaged in the unauthorized practice of law in Maryland when she signed a retainer agreement on behalf of her firm and communicated with the client regarding his cases while she was still suspended from practicing law in Maryland. Respondent also engaged in the unauthorized practice of law in Maryland when she failed to disclose her suspension while obtaining special admission, *pro hac vice*, in two cases pending before the Circuit Court for Montgomery County.

COOPER, Ronald Howard – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on February 2, 2021, effective February 6, 2021, with the right to petition for reinstatement after thirty days, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Between 2012 and 2017, Respondent failed to timely file federal and state payroll tax returns and remit payments to the Internal Revenue Service and the Comptroller of Maryland.

DABNEY, Thomas Bullard, Jr. – Reprimand by Consent on March 26, 2021, for communicating about the subject of representation with a person known to be represented by counsel and for engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent participated in

a conference call between his client and the opposing party and did not seek permission from the opposing party's attorney to communicate directly with the opposing party.

DAVENPORT, Wortham David – Disbarred on November 20, 2020, effective immediately, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of the representation, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent represented a client in a divorce and custody proceeding and abandoned all representation soon after its outset. Respondent failed to attend scheduled hearings, did not advise his client of the hearings, and failed to respond to discovery requests and motions. Respondent failed to withdraw from the case after the client terminated the representation, thereby adversely affecting the client's ability to settle the matter. Respondent also failed to return the unearned fee even after the client requested a refund.

DESIMONE, Bruce Nicholas – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on April 7, 2021, effective May 10, 2021, with the right to petition for reinstatement after ninety days, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to properly supervise a non-attorney assistant, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to represent two clients with competence and diligence in their post-judgment garnishment matter. Respondent delegated the garnishment matter to his paralegal, whose work Respondent failed to adequately supervise and whose misrepresentations Respondent ratified. Respondent then failed to take adequate remedial action and attempted to conceal his paralegal's misrepresentations.

FARMER, Jonathan L. – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on June 4, 2021, effective immediately, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting an unreasonable fee, representing a client when the representation would result in violation of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of the representation, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent was not licensed to practice law in Maryland yet agreed to represent a client in Maryland for a fee. Respondent failed to inform his client that he was not licensed in Maryland and made misrepresentations to the District Court of Maryland for Prince George's County that he had recently been retained in the matter. Only after opposing counsel filed a motion to strike Respondent's appearance did Respondent advise his client that he was not licensed to practice law in Maryland and would not be able to represent her at the trial scheduled one week later. In addition, Respondent made misrepresentations to Bar Counsel regarding the nature of his client's payment.

FINEBLUM, Charles Allan – Suspension for six months and one day on April 26, 2021, effective May 26, 2021, for failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to properly supervise non-attorney assistants, impermissibly sharing legal fees with non-attorneys, assisting another in engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping requirements, and commingling funds. Respondent delegated significant responsibilities in personal injury matters to an independent paralegal firm. Respondent neglected to supervise that paralegal firm and his clients' cases, shared fees with that firm, and failed to properly manage his attorney trust account.

FOURNIER, James Joseph – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on August 14, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to comply with applicable discovery rules and as a result his client's expert witness was precluded from testifying at trial. In addition, the Respondent's statements regarding discovery disputes were not credible.

FRANCIS, Ernest P. – Suspension on May 27, 2021, effective immediately, in a reciprocal action from the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board where the Board revoked Respondent's license to practice law in Virginia, effective March 23, 2021, pending further Order from the Court of Appeals.

FRANK, David Elliott – Disbarred on August 26, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent commingled personal and client funds in his attorney trust account, used the funds in his attorney trust account for personal and familial financial obligations, failed to disburse his client's settlement funds in a timely manner, and misused his client's settlement funds.

GILLELAN, II, Joshua Thomas – Commission Reprimand on July 21, 2020, for failing to comply with the mandatory annual Pro Bono and IOLTA reporting requirements and failing to pay his mandatory annual assessment to the Client Protection Fund of Maryland for a number of years.

GLICK, Louis J. – Reprimand by Consent on March 18, 2021, for knowingly assisting another in violating the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct and failing to comply with attorney trust account prohibited transaction requirements. Respondent assisted Jonathan Resnick in conduct that violated the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct based on his failure to repudiate a Law Firm Funding Agreement arranged for him by Jonathan Resnick. Respondent accepted the Law Firm Funding Agreement, thereby pledging funds required to be deposited in an attorney trust account as security for debts incurred by Jonathan Resnick.

GOLESORKHI, Reza – Commission Reprimand on July 21, 2020, for failing to recognize a conflict of interest. In a business transaction, Respondent represented both the buyer and seller,

whose interests were adverse, and failed to obtain informed consent from either party to waive the conflict and proceed with the joint representation.

GUEH-THORONKA, Kamah Menseleh – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on May 20, 2021, effective immediately, with the right to petition for reinstatement after six months, for failing to represent her client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with her client, failing to communicate the scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and expenses for which her client would be responsible before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping requirements. Respondent represented a client in multiple legal matters over a period of several years and, among other issues, failed to communicate the basis or rate of her fees in each matter to her client and was unable to account accurately for rent payments she collected from a tenant on behalf of her client, a portion of which was used to pay her fees.

HAMILTON, Samuel Cartenius – Commission Reprimand on September 22, 2020, for failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, and failing to maintain adequate client matter records. Respondent collected a \$5,000.00 fee from his client, failed to provide any substantive services of value, failed to deposit and maintain his client's funds in an attorney trust account until earned, and failed to provide his client with invoices for fees charged.

HAMLIN, Sonya Nicole – Commission Reprimand on June 26, 2021, for failing to represent her clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with her clients, failing to communicate to her clients the scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and expenses for which her clients would be responsible before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation, failing to deposit unearned funds into an attorney trust account, representing a client when the representation would result in violation of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and failing to maintain required financial records of the attorney trust account. Notwithstanding the fact that the Respondent is not a member of the District of Columbia Bar, she attempted to represent a client in a District of Columbia family law matter.

HARRIS, Michele Renee – Commission Reprimand on March 22, 2021, for failing to represent her client competently and diligently, failing to recognize a conflict of interest, failing to uphold her duty to a former client, failing to properly supervise a non-attorney assistant, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent prepared a power of attorney and deed for an elderly client and failed to conduct a sufficient investigation of the appropriateness, need, or reasons for the new deed and power of attorney. Later, a Petition for Guardianship of her client's person and property was filed, and Respondent represented her client's son in his opposition to the Petition when she knew or should have known that her representation of the son presented a conflict of interest.

IBEBUCHI, Ferdinand Uchechukwu – Indefinite Suspension on November 20, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of the representation, failing to reasonably expedite litigation, failing to maintain fairness to opposing party and counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to timely respond to discovery requests, failed to appear for trial, and failed to advise his client that a default judgment had been entered against him. Respondent then failed to take action to assist his client with vacating the judgment, failed to follow up with his client, and failed to refund any portion of the fee charged for his services.

JAMES, Jelani Dale – Commission Reprimand on July 27, 2020, for making cash withdrawals from his attorney trust account.

JOHNSON, Chauncey Bayarculus – Indefinite Suspension on March 16, 2021, effective April 15, 2021, with the right to petition for reinstatement after one year, for failing to represent his clients competently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, failing to make required deposits in an attorney trust account, and failing to comply with attorney trust account prohibited transaction requirements. Respondent failed to maintain an attorney trust account, failed to timely remit funds due to clients, failed to safeguard client funds, failed to maintain his trust obligations to clients, made misrepresentations to clients, and commingled funds.

KAHN, Arthur Gary – Commission Reprimand on November 25, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to appear for his client's trial because he failed to provide the court with his new mailing address. Respondent filed a motion to vacate the court's order of dismissal but failed to appear for the hearing on the motion due to a calendaring error. Respondent also failed to deposit and maintain his client's funds in an attorney trust account until earned.

KARAMBELAS, Nicholas G. – Disbarred on October 6, 2020, effective immediately, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and using trust money for purposes other than the purpose for which the money is entrusted. Respondent's intentionally dishonest conduct involved the misappropriation of estate funds and various misrepresentations to the Orphan's Court as well as to his clients.

KEATING, Mary Theresa – Indefinite Suspension on December 23, 2020, effective immediately, for failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on her honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty,

fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent falsely attested that she witnessed her client's signature on a will she prepared for him by adding her signature as a witness three days after her client's death. Respondent then submitted the will to the Register of Wills when she filed a petition for administration of her deceased client's estate, falsely affirming under the penalty of perjury in the petition that the will was properly executed in accordance with Maryland law when she knew she had not witnessed the decedent's signature.

KOLAWOLE, Olufolajimi Abayomi – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on February 5, 2021, effective March 15, 2021, with the right to petition for reinstatement after six months, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, knowingly making a false statement of material fact or law to a third person, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent notarized a General Power of Attorney ("POA") and a document entitled "Indemnity" even though he had not communicated directly with the individual giving the authority or witnessed her sign either document. In addition, Respondent offered to help effectuate the POA and Indemnity with the individual's bank and advised the bank that he had "witnessed the signature ceremony," a false statement that Respondent failed to correct.

KONG-SIVERT, Jillian Nicole – Reprimand by Consent on May 27, 2021, in a reciprocal action from the Supreme Court of Arizona for violating the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct in failing to represent her clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with her clients, collecting unreasonable fees, filing frivolous pleadings, failing to reasonably expedite litigation, failing to properly supervise a non-attorney assistant, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent submitted multiple deficient immigration applications and failed to calendar deadlines to submit applications, which resulted in applications being rejected and client matters ultimately abandoned. Respondent then failed to promptly inform Bar Counsel of the Arizona discipline.

LEATHERMAN, Jennifer Lynn – Disbarred on May 27, 2021, effective immediately, for failing to represent her clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with her clients, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect her clients' interests upon termination of the representation, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on her honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent accepted retainer fees from two clients in separate immigration and family law matters but provided little to no legal services of value and failed to deposit and maintain the clients' funds in an attorney trust account until earned. Respondent knowingly and intentionally redeposited a client's retainer check that caused funds to be fraudulently debited from a client's personal bank account. While representing a client in a family law matter, Respondent failed to propound discovery, failed to respond to opposing counsel's discovery requests, failed to adequately communicate with her client about the status of the case, failed to timely deliver her client's file to successor counsel, and failed to timely execute a Substitution of Counsel.

LORD, Nancy Theresa – Indefinite Suspension on December 10, 2020, effective immediately, in a reciprocal action from the Supreme Court of Nevada for violating the Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct. Respondent made statements that she knew to be false concerning the qualifications or integrity of a judge.

LOVE, Jonathan Frederick Seamon – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on January 4, 2021, effective on February 19, 2021, with the right to petition for reinstatement after ninety days, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent agreed to defend a client in a lawsuit for breach of contract and agreed to assist the client in additional related services. Respondent failed to advise his client that his funds had been depleted, failed to timely provide his client with an invoice accounting for his time, and failed to maintain adequate records of costs paid on his client's behalf. With respect to the breach of contract litigation, Respondent failed to appear for a settlement conference and failed to respond to the opposing party's discovery requests, resulting in the court granting a motion for sanctions and precluding the Respondent's client from introducing any evidence at trial.

LUCEY, Rand William – Commission Reprimand on October 21, 2020, for failing to represent his client diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, and failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of his representation. Over a five-year period, Respondent failed to inform his client of the status of her case or terminate the representation.

McCARTHY, Thomas, Jr. – Disbarred on May 27, 2021, for failing to represent his client diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to withdraw from representing his client when continued representation would result in violation of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to file an opening brief, appendix, or motion to extend time on behalf of a company he represented, resulting in the dismissal of the company's appeal. Respondent failed to inform the company's owner of missed filing deadlines and of the appeal's dismissal and instead knowingly and intentionally misrepresented to the company's owner that he was working on reinstating the appeal. Respondent also held himself out as his client's attorney during a period when he was suspended from the practice of law in Maryland. In addition, Respondent failed to provide timely and complete responses to Bar Counsel.

McEVOY, Jeffrey Patrick – Commission Reprimand on August 29, 2020, for knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent sent an offensive and unprofessional email that included a graphic photograph to the personal representative in an estate matter in which Respondent represented the brother of the decedent. Respondent then knowingly and intentionally misrepresented to Bar Counsel that he did not send the email.

MITCHELL, Michael Anthony – Commission Reprimand on November 30, 2020, for failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, and disclosing confidential client information. The Respondent accepted a payment from his client via PayPal and failed to ensure those funds were deposited directly into his attorney trust account and maintained until earned. In addition, the Respondent did not send an invoice to his client during the pendency of his representation and disclosed confidential client information when he emailed a portion of a Bar Counsel complaint to a friend.

MORENO, David Fernando – Suspension by Consent for sixty days on January 4, 2021, effective immediately, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to take steps to protect his client’s interest upon termination of the representation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent represented a client in immigration matters and, after failing to respond to his client’s attempts to reach him during the months leading up to his client’s asylum hearing, advised his client to attend the hearing without counsel to request a postponement. Respondent failed to appear at the hearing, and the Court ordered his client deported. Although Respondent told his client he would assist him in reopening the case thereafter, Respondent failed to take any further action.

MURPHY, Timothy J – Disbarment by Consent on November 4, 2020, effective January 1, 2021, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his client’s interest upon termination of the representation, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

MURRAY, Charles Alex – Indefinite Suspension on August 24, 2020, with the right to petition for reinstatement only following reinstatement in Florida and the District of Columbia, in a reciprocal action from the Supreme Court of Florida for making a false statement to a tribunal and failing to correct his false statement previously made to the tribunal. Respondent signed a client’s name to a post-conviction motion verification and perjury acknowledgement and thereafter failed to take corrective action to notify the tribunal concerning the falsified client signature.

NABIT, Charles John – Disbarred by Consent on May 12, 2021, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent pled guilty to one count of transporting an individual to engage in prostitution in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2421.

NALLI, Samuel Sudhaker – Commission Reprimand on October 28, 2020, for failing to safekeep unearned fees in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his client’s interest upon termination of the representation, and failing to make required deposits in an attorney trust account. Respondent charged a flat fee and, when his client terminated the representation, initially failed to refund any portion of the flat fee. Because of Respondent's incorrect belief that flat fees were

earned upon receipt, over a ten-year period, Respondent deposited unearned flat fees directly into his operating account without obtaining his clients' informed consent, confirmed in writing.

NARVAIZ, Santiago Ricardo – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on February 23, 2021, effective sixty days from the date of the Court's Order, with the right to petition for reinstatement after ninety days, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of the representation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to deposit a client's funds into an attorney trust account and instead deposited the funds into his personal money market account and, after the client terminated Respondent's representation and repeatedly requested that Respondent provide her with an invoice and return any unearned fees, Respondent still failed to produce either a refund or an accounting. Bar Counsel's investigation revealed that Respondent routinely used his attorney trust account to pay personal expenses, made cash withdrawals, and commingled personal funds with client funds when he failed to withdraw earned fees. The investigation also revealed that Respondent failed to create and maintain the necessary client matter records and monthly reconciliations for his attorney trust account.

NEVERDON, Russell A., Sr. – Suspension for six months on May 28, 2021, effective June 27, 2021, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to identify a conflict of interest, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to promptly deliver funds that a third party was entitled to receive, failing to withdraw from representing his clients when continued representation would result in violation of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct, failing to properly supervise a non-attorney assistant, assisting another in engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent failed to take necessary and basic steps to pursue his clients' personal injury and estate matter and did not keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their case or provide information that would assist them in making informed decisions. Respondent also failed to recognize and advise his clients of a conflict of interest and failed to attempt to obtain his clients' informed consent, confirmed in writing, to continue with the representation. In addition, Respondent failed to adequately supervise his paralegal.

NIER, George Carlos – Disbarment by Consent on September 2, 2020, effective September 30, 2020, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. In an estate matter, as successor personal representative and sole trustee of trusts established for two of the decedent's great-grandchildren, Respondent misappropriated hundreds of thousands of dollars from both trusts and left each with a balance of zero.

OKEDI, Ginikanwa Chinaemerem – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on November 16, 2020, effective December 16, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, failing to maintain fairness to opposing party and

counsel, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, assisting another in engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, making false or misleading communications about his legal services, misusing a firm's name or letterhead, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent shared an office for the practice of law in Maryland with an individual who was not licensed to practice law in Maryland. After moving the office to the District of Columbia, where neither was licensed, Respondent continued to assist his officemate in the unauthorized practice of law and engaged in the unauthorized practice of law in the District of Columbia himself over a period of four years. Respondent also operated his law practice without an attorney trust account and improperly deposited funds belonging to clients and third parties in his operating account.

PATEL, Nishith – Reprimand by Consent on May 14, 2021, for failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to recognize a conflict of interest, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent represented three clients with co-counsel and subsequently represented the same three clients in connection with a fee dispute matter that arose between the clients and Respondent's former co-counsel and that was based on the underlying litigation. Respondent also disbursed a portion of his clients' settlement funds to his law firm as a reimbursement for expenses that he had not yet paid.

PLAISTED, Steven Bernard – Commission Reprimand on October 28, 2020, for counseling a client to engage or assisting a client in conduct that Respondent knew was criminal or fraudulent, acting as advocate at a hearing in which Respondent was likely to be a necessary witness, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent erroneously advised his client that it would be legal and appropriate for him to contact his estranged wife even though the conditions of his client's probation prohibited him from doing so. Respondent then agreed to represent his client at a hearing for a final protective order in which Respondent was a material witness because he participated in, and had personal knowledge of, the events which precipitated his client's wife's petition for a protective order.

PORTILLO, Alisha Ann – Disbarred on March 26, 2021, effective immediately, for failing to represent her clients competently, failing to adequately communicate with her clients, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent improperly advised two clients to fail to appear for their immigration hearings, which resulted in the immigration court issuing orders for both clients' removal from the United States. Respondent also made knowing and intentional false statements to the immigration court and to Bar Counsel and failed to participate in the attorney grievance proceeding.

PRIEST, Troy Alfred-Wiley – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on April 22, 2021, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping requirements, and commingling funds. Respondent regularly deposited

earned fees into his firm's attorney trust account and failed to adequately maintain records associated with the account.

RESNICK, Jonathan Steven – Disbarred by Consent on March 11, 2021, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in misconduct prohibited by Rule 19-308.4, and failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping and prohibited transaction requirements. Respondent failed to maintain proper trust account records, engaged in prohibited attorney trust account transactions, and failed to comply with Bar Counsel's lawful demands for information during multiple investigations.

RIELY, John T. – Indefinite Suspension on November 25, 2020, effective December 25, 2020, with the right to petition for reinstatement no sooner than one year, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interest upon termination of his representation, knowingly making a false statement of material fact or law to a third person, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent, an experienced immigration attorney, failed to appear on behalf of an immigrant couple at status hearings in immigration court, failed to file a visa extension application on a timely basis on behalf of another client, and made misleading statements to a client, an immigration enforcement agent, and Bar Counsel to conceal some aspects of his failure to represent that client competently and diligently.

RIVERA, Artemio – Disbarment by Consent on October 30, 2020, effective immediately, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent was convicted by a jury on four counts of wire fraud.

SADUR, Brian David – Indefinite Suspension on March 5, 2021, effective immediately, with the right to petition for reinstatement after one year, for failing to adequately communicate with his clients, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and failing to comply with the affirmative duties of suspended attorneys. Respondent failed to timely notify his clients and opposing counsels of his previous suspension; failed to timely withdraw his appearance from open client matters; and failed to provide information to Bar Counsel. Respondent engaged in the unauthorized practice of law following his previous suspension in three separate client matters.

SATIN, Wendy L. – Commission Reprimand on December 24, 2020, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to report another attorney's professional misconduct, commingling of funds, and disbursing funds from an attorney trust account when the disbursement created a negative balance with respect to an individual client matter or all client matters in the aggregate. During a five-year period, Respondent failed to promptly withdraw earned fees from

her firm's attorney trust account and made cash withdrawals on the occasions when she did withdraw earned fees. Respondent also failed to timely inform the Attorney Grievance Commission of her law partner's condition that raised substantial questions as to his fitness as an attorney.

SAYADIAN, Nema – Commission Reprimand on March 24, 2021, for failing to abide by the scope of the representation, failing to represent his client diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his client, and knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel. Respondent failed to properly inform a client with diminished capacity that her claim may be barred by the statute of limitations. Respondent filed suit on behalf of his client after the expiration of the statute of limitations and failed to serve the defendants.

SCOTT, James L. – Commission Reprimand on December 21, 2020, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently. Respondent failed to enter his appearance on behalf of seven clients in post-conviction proceedings paneled to him by the Office of the Public Defender. As a result of Respondent's failure to enter his appearance, in at least one instance, Respondent did not appear at his client's post-conviction hearing, necessitating an attorney with the Office of the Public Defender to appear instead and request a continuance.

SHOEMAKER, Jason W. – Disbarment by Consent on September 21, 2020, effective December 1, 2020, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, representing clients involving a conflict of interest, failing to safekeep his clients' funds in his attorney trust account, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Over a four-year period, Respondent failed to adequately manage his attorney trust account when he failed to deposit client funds therein, maintained negative client ledger balances, and commingled personal funds with trust funds. Respondent also allowed his spouse to access and misappropriate funds from his attorney trust account and failed to take remedial measures for approximately five months. In addition, Respondent failed to recognize a conflict of interest when he represented co-defendants in an unrelated criminal matter.

SIMPSON, Christian L. – Suspension by Consent for forty-five days on June 4, 2021, effective July 2, 2021, in a reciprocal action from the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board where the Board suspended Respondent from the practice of law in Virginia for forty-five days, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interests upon termination of the representation, knowingly making false statements in connection with a disciplinary matter, knowingly failing to respond to a disciplinary authority, and engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Respondent untimely filed his client's lawsuit after the statute of limitations expired and failed to inform her of his later withdrawal from the representation. Respondent also failed to inform his client of an upcoming court date, and the court dismissed the lawsuit after both Respondent and his client failed to appear at the scheduled hearing. Respondent failed to submit another client's settlement demand on her behalf. In addition, Respondent made misrepresentations to the Virginia State Bar regarding both client matters.

SMITH, Timothy Guy – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on November 12, 2020, effective December 31, 2020, for failing to adequately communicate with his client, failing to recognize conflicts of interest, entering into business transactions with a current client without obtaining the client's informed consent, failing to uphold his duty to a former client, knowingly making a false statement of material fact or law, and engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Respondent provided legal and business advice to his client and made numerous loans to his client to help fund his client's business without advising his client to seek independent legal advice. Later, Respondent represented his own company in litigation filed against his former client's company without his former client's informed consent. Respondent also sent a pretextual email to his former client's company to gather financial information he needed for litigation against his former client.

SNYDER, Stephen Lawrence – Temporary Suspension by Consent on October 23, 2020, effective March 31, 2021, pending the resolution of the criminal charges against Respondent in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.

SPANGLER, George Henry – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on May 7, 2021, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent maintained a large sum of client and third-party funds in his attorney trust account when he closed his law practice and, after initially employing an individual to attempt to reconcile his account, later failed to undertake any effort to reconcile his account or disburse funds owed to clients and third parties for a period of seven years. Respondent routinely deposited personal funds in his attorney trust account to correct deficiencies, commingled trust funds with personal funds by failing to promptly withdraw unearned fees, and deposited estate funds in his attorney trust account.

SPERLING, Samuel – Suspension for 120 days on March 1, 2021, effective March 31, 2021, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent demonstrated a lack of competence, diligence, and communication in several instances while representing two clients as plaintiffs in the same motor vehicle tort case. After receiving a deferral of dismissal of his clients' lawsuit, Respondent failed to take further steps to locate a service address for the defendant, leading to the dismissal of the case without prejudice. Respondent did not tell his clients that he had not served the defendant and that, as a result, the case was dismissed. In addition, Respondent failed to convey a settlement offer to his clients and failed to transmit one client's medical records to the defendant's insurer, which the insurer had asked to review for the purpose of evaluating settlement.

STANCIL, Lisa Joi – Commission Reprimand on April 26, 2021, for failing to provide competent and diligent representation by failing to adequately account for funds in her attorney trust account. In a personal injury matter, the Respondent failed to promptly remit payment to third-party medical providers despite maintaining the funds in her attorney trust account.

STEWART, Craig W. – Indefinite Suspension by Consent on April 7, 2021, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, and disbursing funds from an attorney trust account when the disbursement created a negative balance with respect to an individual client matter or all client matters in the aggregate. Respondent's firm's attorney trust account was overdrawn twice. Respondent routinely failed to deposit and maintain unearned fees in an attorney trust account and instead deposited the funds directly into his operating account. Respondent also used the operating account to make payments to third parties.

TAPP, Barry M. – Commission Reprimand on December 21, 2020, for failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account and failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping and prohibited transaction requirements. Respondent failed to establish appropriate record-keeping systems, and his attorney trust account was overdrawn. Respondent also made cash withdrawals from his attorney trust account and regularly commingled funds by depositing payments from Chapter 13 Trustees into his attorney trust account.

TERZIU, Jack Ryan – Commission Reprimand on September 9, 2020, for failing to recognize conflicts of interest. For approximately three years, Respondent represented clients as a sole practitioner where his representation involved a conflict of interest with his former firm's clients. The conflicts included representing clients who were directly adverse to a firm client and where there was a significant risk that Respondent's representation of his client would be materially limited by his responsibilities, through the firm, to another client.

VASILIADES, Christos – Disbarred by Consent on June 3, 2021, effective August 27, 2021, for committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent received probation before judgment for one count of obstruction of justice in violation of Maryland Code, Criminal Law Section 9-306.

VELEZ, Wendy L. – Commission Reprimand on July 3, 2020, for failing to represent her clients diligently, failing to adequately communicate with her clients, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, and failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping requirements. Respondent failed to deposit unearned fees into her attorney trust account and failed to maintain a record of receipt of the funds. Respondent failed to provide diligent representation to two different clients. After a change in employment, Respondent failed to communicate with a client regarding the termination of her representation.

VILADEGUT, Angel Arturo – Disbarred on March 1, 2021, effective immediately, for failing to represent his clients competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his clients, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his clients' interests upon termination of the representation, failing to maintain candor to the tribunal, knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that

is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent represented numerous clients in immigration matters and made knowing and intentional misrepresentations to tribunals, his clients, and his clients' family members regarding the representation. Respondent accepted fees he did not earn. Respondent later failed to return unearned fees, abandoned his clients, and failed to respond to Bar Counsel's investigations regarding his clients' complaints.

WERTHEIMER, Marc – Commission Reprimand on August 29, 2020, for failing to recognize that his representation of one client was directly adverse to the interests of other clients in violation of the prohibition against conflicts of interest. Respondent represented an estate in probate proceedings while representing the decedent's former business partners who had claims against the estate based, in part, upon written agreements drafted by the Respondent and previously executed by the decedent and his partners.

WEST, Nyasha A. – Commission Reprimand on June 29, 2021, for failing to comply with attorney trust account record-keeping and prohibited transaction requirements. Respondent made numerous cash withdrawals from her attorney trust account, failed to create and maintain client ledgers, and failed to perform monthly reconciliations of her attorney trust account.

YI, John Xander – Disbarred on August 21, 2020, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, failing to reasonably communicate his fees to his client, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of his representation, failing to maintain accurate records concerning his firm's trust account, failing to promptly deliver to his client funds to which his client was entitled, knowingly making false statements of material fact, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. As a relatively new attorney without significant criminal law experience, Respondent agreed to represent an immigrant charged with serious drug offenses that could have resulted in imprisonment and affected her immigration status, failed to communicate adequately with his client, failed to diligently analyze the discovery provided by the prosecution and prepare adequately the defense of the charges, mishandled his client's fee payment, mismanaged his firm's attorney trust account, and made misrepresentations and otherwise failed to adequately respond to Bar Counsel's requests for information.

YOUNG, Celio Warren – Disbarred on March 31, 2021, for failing to represent his client competently and diligently, failing to abide by the scope of representation, failing to adequately communicate with his client, collecting unreasonable fees, entering into business transactions with a current client without obtaining the client's informed consent, failing to safekeep funds in an attorney trust account, failing to take steps to protect his client's interest upon termination of the representation, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, directly soliciting employment from a prospective client for his own pecuniary gain, knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel, committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as an attorney, engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, and engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. Respondent made intentional misrepresentations to his client about the status of his case; failed to advise his client, in writing, to seek independent legal counsel before entering into a settlement agreement with

Respondent on the client's legal malpractice claim against him; failed to use funds to negotiate lower medical expenses for his client as agreed upon in a settlement agreement; and failed to respond to numerous requests for information from Bar Counsel.

YOUNG, Tristan Doyle – Disbarred by Consent on December 21, 2020, effective immediately, for knowingly making false statements to Bar Counsel and knowingly failing to respond to Bar Counsel. Respondent submitted his Application to the Maryland Bar and was admitted to the Maryland Bar under false pretenses as Respondent intentionally failed to disclose numerous prior serious transgressions because he believed their disclosure would prevent his admission to the Maryland Bar.

ZAJDEL, Cory Lev – Commission Reprimand on March 10, 2021, for failing to adequately communicate with his client and failing to include the name of at least one attorney responsible for advertising communications' content on advertising materials. After signing an online retainer agreement, Respondent's client did not receive any further information or updates regarding his case, and Respondent and his client attempted to communicate via an exchange of public Facebook posts after the client posted a negative online review. In addition, while Respondent's firm's Facebook page disclosed Respondent's identity and included a link to his personal Facebook page, the firm's website did not include the name of any attorney responsible for its content.