FILE NO. 201804993

IN THE MATTER OF:	§	INVESTIGATORY PANEL 6-2
TA LADADDVI WADDEN	§	DISTRICT S
TAJ ADARRYL WARREN,	§ 8	DISTRICT 6
BAR NO. 24060802	§	GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

AGREED JUDGMENT OF PARTIALLY PROBATED SUSPENSION

Agreement of Parties

Chief Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent, **TAJ ADARRYL WARREN** (Respondent), Texas Bar Number **24060802**, announce that an agreement has been reached on all matters including the imposition of a Partially Probated Suspension.

Jurisdiction and Venue

The Investigatory Panel 6-2, having been duly appointed to hear this Complaint by the chair of the Grievance Committee for State Bar of Texas District 6, finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action, and that venue is proper.

Professional Misconduct

The Investigatory Panel, having considered the admissions, stipulations and agreements of the parties, finds Respondent has committed Professional Misconduct as defined by Rule 1.06(CC) of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Findings of Fact

Chief Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent agree to the following findings of fact.

Accordingly, the Investigatory Panel finds:

- 1. Respondent is an attorney licensed to practice law in Texas and is a member of the State Bar of Texas.
- 2. Respondent resides in and maintains his principal place of practice in Dallas County, Texas.

- 3. In representing Complainant Bethany T. Morrison (Morrison), Respondent neglected the legal matter entrusted to him.
- 4. Respondent failed to explain the legal matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit Morrison to make informed decisions regarding the representation.
- 5. Upon termination of representation, Respondent failed to surrender papers and property to which Morrison was entitled.
- 6. The Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas has incurred reasonable attorney's fees and direct expenses associated with this Disciplinary Proceeding in the amount of Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$500.00).

Conclusions of Law

Based on the agreed findings of fact, the Investigatory Panel finds that the following Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct have been violated: Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(b), and 1.15(d).

Sanction

It is **AGREED** and **ORDERED** that the sanction of a Partially Probated Suspension shall be imposed against Respondent and is in accordance with Part XV of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** that Respondent be suspended from the practice of law for a period of thirty-six (36) months, beginning June 1, 2019, and ending May 31, 2022, provided Respondent complies with the following terms and conditions. Respondent shall be actively suspended from the practice of law for a period of six (6) months beginning June 1, 2019, and ending November 30, 2019. If Respondent complies with all of the following terms and conditions timely, the thirty (30) month period of probated suspension shall begin on December 1, 2019, and shall end on May 31, 2022:

 Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and direct expenses to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$500.00). The payment shall be due and payable on or before November 30, 2019, and shall be made by certified or cashier's check or money order. Respondent shall forward the funds, made payable to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701).

Should Respondent fail to comply with all of the above terms and conditions timely, Respondent shall remain actively suspended until the date of compliance or until May 31, 2022, whichever occurs first.

Terms of Active Suspension

It is further **ORDERED** that during the term of active suspension, or any period of active suspension that may be imposed upon Respondent by the Board of Disciplinary Appeals as a result of a probation revocation proceeding, Respondent shall be prohibited from practicing law in Texas; holding himself out as an attorney at law; performing any legal services for others; accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services; appearing as counsel or in any representative capacity in any proceeding in any Texas or Federal court or before any administrative body; or holding himself out to others or using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney," "counselor at law," or "lawyer."

It is further **ORDERED** that, on or before June 1, 2019, Respondent shall notify each of Respondent's current clients and opposing counsel in writing of this suspension.

In addition to such notification, it is further **ORDERED** that, on or before June 1, 2019, Respondent shall return any files, papers, unearned monies and other property belonging to current clients in Respondent's possession to the respective clients or to another attorney at the client's request.

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall, on or before June 1, 2019, notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, administrative judge or officer and chief justice of each and every court or tribunal in which Respondent has any matter pending of the terms of this judgment, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing.

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall file with the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), on or before June 1, 2019, an affidavit affirming: 1. all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of Respondent's suspension; 2. all files, papers, monies and other property belonging to all current clients have been returned; and 3. Respondent has notified in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent has any matter pending of the terms of this judgment, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing in Court.

It is further **ORDERED** that, on or before June 1, 2019, Respondent shall surrender his law license and permanent State Bar Card to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), to be forwarded to the Supreme Court of Texas.

Terms of Probation

It is further **ORDERED** that during all periods of suspension, Respondent shall be under the following terms and conditions:

1. Respondent shall not violate any term of this judgment.

- 2. Respondent shall not engage in professional misconduct as defined by Rule 1.06(CC) of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.
- 3. Respondent shall not violate any state or federal criminal statutes.
- 4. Respondent shall keep State Bar of Texas membership department notified of current mailing, residence and business addresses and telephone numbers.
- 5. Respondent shall comply with Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) requirements.
- 6. Respondent shall promptly respond to any request for information from the Chief Disciplinary Counsel in connection with any investigation of any allegations of professional misconduct.
- In addition to complying with the Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirements of the State Bar of Texas, Respondent shall complete twelve (12) additional hours of continuing legal education in the following areas: Ethics (3 hours); Law Practice Management (3 hours); Personal Injury (3 hours); and Client Relationships (3 hours). These additional hours of CLE are to be completed between June 1, 2019, and May 31, 2022. Within ten (10) days of the completion of these additional CLE hours, Respondent shall verify completion of the course to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Suite 200, Austin, TX 78701).
- 8. Respondent shall make contact with the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Offices' Compliance Monitor at 877-953-5535, ext. 1334 and Special Programs Coordinator at 877-953-5535, ext. 1323, not later than seven (7) days after receipt of a copy of this judgment to coordinate Respondent's compliance.

Probation Revocation

Upon information that Respondent has violated a term of this judgment, the Chief Disciplinary Counsel may, in addition to all other remedies available, file a motion to revoke probation pursuant to the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure with the Board of Disciplinary Appeals (BODA) and serve a copy of the motion on Respondent pursuant to Tex.R.Civ.P. 21a.

BODA shall conduct an evidentiary hearing. At the hearing, BODA shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether Respondent has violated any term of this Judgment. If BODA finds grounds for revocation, BODA shall enter an order revoking probation and placing Respondent on active suspension from the date of such revocation order. Respondent shall not be given credit for any term of probation served prior to revocation.

It is further **ORDERED** that any conduct on the part of Respondent which serves as the basis for a motion to revoke probation may also be brought as independent grounds for discipline as allowed under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct and Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Attorney's Fees and Expenses

It is further **AGREED** and **ORDERED** that Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and direct expenses, on or before November 30, 2019, to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$500.00). The payment shall be made by certified or cashier's check or money order, made payable to the State Bar of Texas and delivered to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701).

It is further **ORDERED** that all amounts ordered herein are due to the misconduct of Respondent, are assessed as a part of the sanction in accordance with Rule 1.06(FF) of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Any amount not paid shall accrue interest at the maximum legal rate per annum until paid and the State Bar of Texas shall have all writs

and other post-judgment remedies against Respondent in order to collect all unpaid amounts.

<u>Publication</u>

This suspension shall be made a matter of public record and appropriately published in accordance with the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Other Relief

All requested relief not expressly granted herein is expressly DENIED.

SIGNED this 30th day of May , 2019.

INVESTIGATORY PANEL 6-2

DISTRICT 6

THOMAS S. HOWERY PRESIDING MEMBER

AGREED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:

TAJ ADARRYL WARREN

State Bar No. 24060802

RESPONDENT

JACKIE K WHEELINGTON

State Ba. No. 24086673

ASSISTANT DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL