

**BEFORE THE DISTRICT 1 GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
EVIDENTIARY PANEL 1-1
STATE BAR OF TEXAS**

**COMMISSION FOR LAWYER
DISCIPLINE,
Petitioner**

V.

**STACI JENNIFER STRONG,
Respondent**

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CASE NO. 201601120

JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT

Parties and Appearance

On September 13, 2019, came to be heard the above-styled and numbered cause. Petitioner, Commission for Lawyer Discipline (Petitioner), appeared by and through its attorney of record and announced ready. Respondent, **STACI JENNIFER STRONG**, Texas Bar Number **24037564** (Respondent), appeared in person and announced ready.

Jurisdiction and Venue

The Evidentiary Panel 1-1, having been duly appointed to hear this complaint by the chair of the Grievance Committee for State Bar of Texas District 1, finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action and that venue is proper.

Professional Misconduct

The Evidentiary Panel, having considered all of the pleadings, evidence, stipulations and argument, finds Respondent has committed Professional Misconduct as defined by Rule 1.06(W) of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Findings of Fact

The Evidentiary Panel, having considered the pleadings, evidence and argument of counsel, makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

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 her principal place of practice in Collin County, Texas.
3. Beginning in 2011, Respondent represented her husband Douglas Heuvel (Heuvel) in a collection suit filed by The Highlands Bank of Dallas (the Bank), which resulted in a judgment being entered against Heuvel.
4. During the course of post-judgment collection efforts by the Bank, Respondent engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.
5. 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 One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Two and 50/100 Dollars (\$1,262.50).
6. The Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas has incurred direct expenses associated with the Disciplinary Proceeding in the amount of Three Hundred Ninety-Nine and 50/100 Dollars (\$399.50).

Conclusions of Law

The Evidentiary Panel concludes that, based on foregoing findings of fact, the following Texas Disciplinary Rule of Professional Conduct has been violated: Rule 8.04(a)(3).

Sanction

The Evidentiary Panel, having found Respondent has committed Professional Misconduct, heard and considered additional evidence regarding the appropriate sanction to be imposed against Respondent. After hearing all evidence and argument and after having considered the factors in Rule 2.18 of the Texas Rule of Disciplinary Procedure, the Evidentiary Panel finds that proper discipline of the Respondent for each act of Professional Misconduct is DISBARMENT.

Disbarment

It is therefore **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** that effective September 13, 2019, Respondent, STACI JENNIFER STRONG, Texas Bar Number 24037564, is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law in the State of Texas.

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent is prohibited from practicing law in Texas, holding herself 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 court or before any administrative body or holding herself out to others or using her name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney at law," "attorney," "counselor at law," or "lawyer."

Notification

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall immediately notify each of her current clients in writing of this disbarment. In addition to such notification, Respondent is **ORDERED** to return any files, papers, unearned monies and other property belonging to clients and former clients in the Respondent's possession to the respective clients or former clients or to another attorney at the client's or former client's request. Respondent is further **ORDERED** to 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) within thirty (30) days of the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, an affidavit stating that all current clients have been notified of Respondent's disbarment and that all files, papers, monies and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned as ordered herein.

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall, on or before thirty (30) days from the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, 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. Respondent is further **ORDERED** to 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), within thirty (30) days of the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, an affidavit stating that each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, administrative judge or officer and chief justice has received written notice of the terms of this judgment.

Surrender of License

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall, within thirty (30) days of the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, surrender her 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 the State of Texas.

Attorney's Fees and Expenses

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and direct expenses to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Two and 50/100 Dollars (\$1,262.50). The payment shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, 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, to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701).

It is further **ORDERED** Respondent shall pay all direct expenses to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of Three Hundred Ninety-Nine and 50/100 Dollars (\$399.50). The payment shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the signing of this judgment by the Panel Chair, 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, to the 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 and are assessed as a part of the sanction in accordance with Rule 1.06(Z) 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.

Publication

It is further **ORDERED** this disbarment shall be made a matter of record and appropriately published in accordance with the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Conditions Precedent to Reinstatement

It is further **ORDERED** payment of the foregoing attorney's fees and expenses amounts shall be a condition precedent to any consideration of reinstatement from

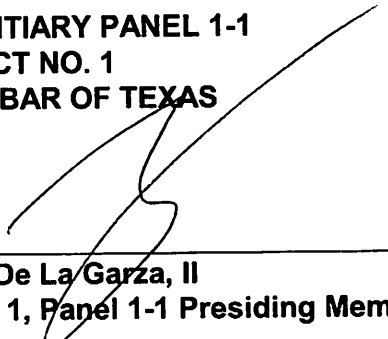
disbarment as provided by Rules 2.19, 2.20 and 11.02(D) of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Other Relief

All requested relief not expressly granted herein is expressly DENIED.

SIGNED this 19 day of September, 2019

**EVIDENTIARY PANEL 1-1
DISTRICT NO. 1
STATE BAR OF TEXAS**



**Rafael De La Garza, II
District 1, Panel 1-1 Presiding Member**