

IN THE MATTER OF:

JUAN R. MOLINA,  
BAR NO. 14256550

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INVESTIGATORY PANEL 12-2

DISTRICT 12

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

**AGREED JUDGMENT OF PROBATED SUSPENSION**

**Parties and Appearance**

Chief Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent, Juan R. Molina, Texas Bar Number 14256550, announce that an agreement has been reached on all matters including the imposition of a Probated Suspension.

**Jurisdiction and Venue**

The Investigatory Panel 12-2, having conducted an Investigatory Hearing on January 6, 2021 on the Complaint filed by Anthony Troiani, 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**

Petitioner 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's Professional Misconduct occurred, in whole or in part, in Hidalgo County, Texas.
3. Respondent failed to fully explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary



- for the City of Mercedes to make an informed decision.
4. Respondent failed to keep money owed to the City of Mercedes in trust account separate from the Respondent's property.
  5. Upon receiving funds for the City of Mercedes, Respondent failed to timely disburse money to the City of Mercedes.
  6. Upon receiving a request, Respondent failed to promptly provide a full accounting to the City of Mercedes.
  7. The Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas has incurred reasonable attorneys' fees and direct expenses associated with this Disciplinary Proceeding in the amount of \$1,300.00.

### **Conclusions of Law**

Based on the agreed foregoing findings of fact, the Investigatory Panel finds that the following Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct have been violated: 1.03(b); 1.14(a); 1.14(b).

### **Sanction**

It is AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction of a 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 three years, with the suspension being fully probated pursuant to the terms stated below. The period of probated suspension shall begin on February 7, 2021 and shall end on February 6, 2024.

### **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, email addresses and telephone numbers.
5. Respondent shall comply with Minimum Continuing Legal Education requirements.
6. Respondent shall comply with Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) requirements.
7. 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.
8. Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and direct expenses, on or before February 7, 2021, to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of \$1,300.00. The payment shall be 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).
9. For two years, Respondent shall provide a quarterly report to the State Bar of Texas for each trust account that he maintains as part of his law license. The first report shall be filed by June 30, 2021 and cover the three months from April 30, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Additional reports shall be filed every three months after June 30, 2021, with each report covering the three-month period ending on the last day of the previous month. The last report shall be filed by June 30, 2023. Each report shall include the records regarding Respondent's trust accounts for the applicable three-month period, including the checkbooks, canceled checks, check stubs, check registers, bank statements, vouchers, deposit slips, ledgers, journals, closing statements, accountings, and other statements of receipts and disbursements rendered to clients or other parties with regard to client trust funds, or other similar records clearly reflecting the date, amount, source, and explanation for all receipts, withdrawals, deliveries, and disbursements of the funds or other property of a client. The records regarding each trust account shall be grouped together. All reports and verifications of compliance with the above shall be sent to the State Bar of Texas via USPS to: Compliance Monitor, Office of the CDC, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487; or via Delivery: Office of the CDC, State Bar of Texas, 1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701, or via FAX to: 512-427-4167.
10. 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 Rule 2.22 of 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 ORDERED Respondent shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and direct expenses, on or before February 7, 2021, to the State Bar of Texas in the amount of \$1,300.00. 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.

**Publication**

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 8th day of January, 2021.

INVESTIGATORY PANEL 12-2  
DISTRICT 12

  
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AIZAR J. KARAM JR.  
PRESIDING MEMBER

**AGREED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:**

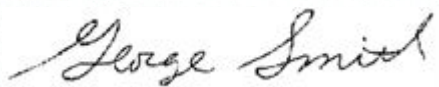


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Juan R. Molina  
State Bar No. 14256550  
**RESPONDENT**



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Nicole Edgar Jackson  
State Bar No. 24048178  
**COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT**





George Smith

State Bar No. 24041940

**ASSISTANT CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL**