

FILE NO. 201907781 (Salazar)
FILE NO. 202000378 (Furrer)

IN THE MATTER OF:	§	INVESTIGATORY PANEL 11-2
	§	
GREGGORY ALLEN TEETER,	§	DISTRICT 11
BAR NO. 24033264	§	
	§	GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

AGREED JUDGMENT OF PROBATED SUSPENSION

Parties and Appearance

The Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent, Gregory Allen Teeter, Texas Bar Number 24033264, announce that an agreement has been reached on all matters including the imposition of a Probated Suspension.

Jurisdiction and Venue

The Investigatory Panel 11-2, having conducted an Investigatory Hearing on November 19, 2020 on the Complaints filed by Maria Salazar and Lindsay Furrer, 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 Nueces County, Texas.
3. Respondent represented Lindsay Furrer and Ryan Furrer for personal injury claims following a car accident on May 27, 2018. Respondent received settlement funds on the Furrers injury claims in August 2018. Although Respondent initially deposited the settlement funds into a trust account, he failed to hold the portion owed to the clients and to their medical providers in trust and separate from his own funds. Respondent failed to promptly deliver the settlement funds owed to his clients and to their medical providers.
4. Respondent represented Maria Salazar and her children on wrongful death injury claims arising from the death of Leroy Salazar on July 30, 2014. Maria Salazar had signed a contingency fee contract of employment with the law firm where Respondent was employed. Respondent left his former law firm and opened his own law practice in early December 2016 and litigation was immediately initiated between Respondent and his former law firm regarding employment disputes and Respondent's contact with and continued representation of clients of his former firm.
5. Respondent agreed to represent Maria Salazar and her children when the representation reasonably appeared to be or become adversely limited by the interests of Respondent and/or Respondent's law firm. Respondent failed to render candid advice to the client, failed to fully disclose the nature and extent of Respondent's disputes with his former employer and failed to explain to the client to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make an informed decision regarding the substantial risks associated with terminating the former law firm and entering into a second contingency fee contract with Respondent and to continuing with Respondent as her attorney while he was engaged in protracted, contentious litigation with his former law firm.

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: 1.14(a), 1.14(b), 1.06(b)(2), 1.03(b) and 2.01.

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 forty-seven (47) months, with the suspension being fully probated pursuant to the terms stated below. The period of probated suspension shall begin on January 1, 2021 and shall end on November 30, 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 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.

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 8 day of January, 2024.


INVESTIGATORY PANEL 11-2
DISTRICT 11


Richard W. Rogers, III, Chair

AGREED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:




Greggory Allen Teeter
State Bar No. 24033264
RESPONDENT




Stephanie Strolle
State Bar No. 00785069
ASSISTANT CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:



Charles Webb
State Bar No. 21039500
COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT



Terry Shamsie
State Bar No. 18089800
COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENT