

Discipline

Public Discipline

Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 2003

Erie County

The Supreme Court on Oct. 9 ordered **Dan W. Susi** suspended for five years, retroactive to July 9, 2003. The Disciplinary Board had recommended a suspension of three years. Justice Russell M. Nigro dissented in favor of a three-year suspension. According to the disciplinary report, Susi was convicted of indecent assault upon and furnishing liquor to a minor. “Respondent was in a position of authority to the victim, as the victim was working for him to pay off a fee from a prior representation,” the report said.

Philadelphia

The Supreme Court on Oct. 9 ordered **Keith Acton Halterman** suspended for three years, retroactive to Dec. 28, 2001, the date he was placed on temporary suspension, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Halterman engaged in “a pattern of misconduct” in the representation of clients from 1997 to 2001, when he was convicted of possession of cocaine. The report said he continued to practice after being placed on inactive status, failed to represent clients competently or diligently, failed to communicate with clients, failed to respond to discovery, failed to withdraw when discharged, and failed to return files and unearned fees.

Washington County

The Supreme Court on Oct. 24 ordered **John T. Olshock** suspended for three years, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Olshock misappropriated \$18,000 from an estate. “An aggravating factor in this matter is that respondent is the first assistant district attorney in Washington County,” the report added. “While the misconduct did not occur during the exercise of respondent’s public duties, his public position demands a high expectation of integrity. ...”

Disbarments on Consent

The following attorneys have been disbarred on consent under a rule of disciplinary enforcement pertaining to resignations by attorneys under disciplinary investigation: **John Randolph Prince III**, Delaware County, on Sept. 22; **James William Kephart**, Bucks County, on Sept. 25; **John P. Gagliotti**, Crawford County, on Oct. 9; and **David M. Lockwood**, Philadelphia, on Oct. 24.

Temporary Suspensions – Rule 208(f)

The following attorneys have been placed on emergency temporary suspension under a rule of disciplinary enforcement pertaining to attorneys whose continued practice would cause substantial public or private harm because of the misappropriation of funds or other egregious conduct: **Lawrence James Casella**, Allegheny County, on Sept. 22; **Joseph Edward Hudak**, Allegheny County, on Oct. 3; and **Wilbert H. Beachy III**, Somerset County, on Oct. 24.

Reciprocal Discipline

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has imposed reciprocal discipline on the following attorneys: **Patrick J. Moore**, out of state, suspended for one year, on Sept. 22, for a like suspension imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey; **Ara Richard Avrigan**, Philadelphia, suspended for three months, on Sept. 22, for a like suspension imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey; **Peter A. Wood**, out of state, suspended for three months, on Oct. 2, for a like suspension imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Transfer to Inactive Status

Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 2003

The following attorney has been transferred to inactive status in connection with a rule of disciplinary enforcement pertaining to respondents in disciplinary proceedings who are suffering from a disability and are unable to prepare an adequate defense: **G. David Rosenblum**, Philadelphia, on Sept. 15.

Reinstatements

Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 2003

The Supreme Court on Oct. 9 approved the reinstatements of **George Stenhach** and **Walter Stenhach**, both of Potter County, from nine-month suspensions dated Nov. 25, 2002. The court on Oct. 24 denied a petition for reinstatement filed by **Jeffrey Harris Frankel**, Montgomery County, disbarred on consent on April 17, 1996.