

Discipline

PUBLIC DISCIPLINE

Oct. 31 – Dec. 31, 2003

Dauphin County

The Supreme Court on Dec. 23 ordered **William M. Gross** disbarred, retroactive to March 14, 2001, the date of his fourth of four disciplinary hearings, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. Chief Justice Ralph J. Cappy and Justices Ronald D. Castille and Russell M. Nigro dissented in favor of a five-year retroactive suspension. Gross was placed on emergency temporary suspension on July 14, 2000. "In connection with 15 different real estate settlements, over a period of three years, respondent received settlement funds in his capacity as settlement agent or attorney and failed to properly disburse the funds to the appropriate parties," the disciplinary report said. "Respondent failed to procure title insurance or pay outstanding bills and taxes." The report added that "in at least two instances, respondent placed his clients in jeopardy of losing their property at public sale for failure to pay taxes."

Lackawanna County

The court on Dec. 10 ordered **Dennis J. Mark** to be subjected to public censure and placed on probation for a year, under the supervision of a practice monitor, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Mark's misconduct involved "failure to take action on client cases for long periods of time and failure to communicate with clients concerning their matters" and in one instance involved making a misrepresentation "to cover his neglect."

Montgomery County

The court on Dec. 9 ordered **Mark Jurikson** suspended for one year and one day, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Jurikson failed to appear before the board for a private reprimand in 2001.

Philadelphia

The court on Dec. 9 ordered **Thomas William Smith** suspended for one year and one day, as recommended by a two-member dissent from the Disciplinary Board's majority recommendation of a four-year retroactive suspension. According to the disciplinary report, Smith engaged "in 11 separate instances of major case neglect and multiple instances of misrepresentations about the status of cases on seven separate dates." Smith was placed on inactive status on Dec. 13, 1998, for failure to meet continuing legal education requirements.

Out of State

The court on Nov. 14 ordered the disbarment of **Marc M. Scola**, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Scola, who practiced in Allamuchy, N.J., was placed on temporary suspension on April 19, 2002, after having pleaded guilty in New Jersey Superior Court on July 9, 2001, to charges of theft by deception and tampering with witnesses and informants.

The court on Nov. 18 ordered **Maria Del Sol Morell** of Annandale, Va., suspended for 30 months, retroactive to Sept. 24, 2001, as recommended in a five-member dissent to the Disciplinary Board's majority recommendation of a two-year retroactive suspension. The disciplinary report said Morell was placed on temporary suspension on Sept. 24, 2001, after having pleaded guilty in federal court in eastern Virginia to making false statements to a financial institution in connection with 15 real estate transactions in which she served as settlement agent.

The court on Dec. 29 ordered the disbarment of **Thomas Louie**, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board. According to the disciplinary report, Louie, who most recently practiced in

Glendale, Ariz., and was transferred to inactive status in Pennsylvania on Nov. 30, 2000, “engaged in a three-year pattern of neglect” in connection with his representation of the executors of a Pennsylvania estate, withdrew more than \$108,000 from the estate and failed to deposit estate assets of \$23,000.

Temporary Suspension — 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: **Floyd Paul Jones**, York County, on Oct. 31, and **George A. Baillie**, Washington County, on Dec. 11.

Temporary Suspension — Rule 214(d)(1)

The following attorneys have been placed on temporary suspension under a rule of disciplinary enforcement pertaining to attorneys convicted of serious crimes: **Rima Jameel Fahl**, Lehigh County, on Nov. 14; **Joseph Allen Jaffe**, Allegheny County, on Nov. 18; and **Joseph R. D’Andrea**, Lackawanna County, on Nov. 24.

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: **Donald Joseph Richmond**, Delaware County, on Nov. 18; **Glenn Grogan**, Chester County, on Dec. 22; and **Samuel Mychak Jr.**, Philadelphia, on Dec. 29.

Reciprocal Discipline

The court has imposed reciprocal discipline on the following attorneys: **Samuel A. Malat**, suspended for three months, on Nov. 24, for like discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey; **James Samuel DeBosh**, suspended for three months, on Dec. 10, for like discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey; **Francis X. Gavin**, suspended for three months, on Dec. 10, for like discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of New Jersey; and **Mark A. Rock**, disbarred, on Dec. 10, in response to like discipline ordered by the Supreme Court of Ohio.

REINSTATEMENT PETITIONS

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The court has approved petitions for reinstatement filed by the following individuals: **Russell F. D’Aiello Jr.**, York County, on Dec. 18, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board, from a two-year suspension ordered Dec. 28, 2001, retroactive to June 16, 2000; **Robert B. Hulnick Jr.**, Chester County, on Dec. 18, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board, from disbarment on consent dated Nov. 16, 1993; **A. Claudia Johnson, a.k.a. Augusta Claudia Miller Johnson**, Philadelphia, on Dec. 29, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board, from a disbarment on consent dated April 30, 1992; and **David P. Rovner**, Philadelphia, on Dec. 30, from a six-month suspension ordered May 6, 2003.

The court has denied a petition for reinstatement filed by the following individual: **David Wayne Turman**, Allegheny County, on suspension for a year and day ordered Aug. 9, 1999, denied on Nov. 14, as recommended by the Disciplinary Board.