## **VIRGINIA:**

## BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE ED BARKER, JR.

## VSB DOCKET NO: 21-000-121243

## AGREED DISPOSITION MEMORANDUM ORDER SIX-MONTH SUSPENSION

On January 15, 2021, this matter was heard by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board ("Board") upon the joint request of the parties for the Board to accept the Agreed Disposition signed by the parties and offered to the Board as provided by Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-6.H. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Board panel consisted of Yvonne S. Gibney, Chair; Stephanie G. Cox; Sandra J. Havrilak; Robin J. Kegley; and Reba H. Davis, Lay Member. The Virginia State Bar was represented by Edward J. Dillon, Jr., Senior Assistant Bar Counsel. Respondent George Ed Barker, Jr. ("Respondent") was present and was not represented by counsel. The Chair polled the members of the Board as to whether any of them were aware of any personal or financial interest or bias which would preclude any of them from fairly hearing the matter to which each member responded in the negative. Court Reporter Jennifer Hairfield, Chandler and Halasz, P.O. Box 9349, Richmond, Virginia 23227, telephone (804) 730-1222, after being duly sworn, reported the hearing and transcribed the proceedings.

WHEREFORE, upon consideration of the Agreed Disposition, Notice of Show Cause Hearing on Terms, and Respondent's Disciplinary Record, the arguments of the parties, and after due deliberation,

It is **ORDERED** that the Disciplinary Board accepts the Agreed Disposition and the Respondent shall receive a six-month suspension, as set forth in the Agreed Disposition, which is attached to and incorporated in this Memorandum Order.

It is further **ORDERED** that the sanction is effective January 20, 2021.

It is further **ORDERED** that:

The Respondent shall comply with the requirements of Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Respondent shall forthwith give notice by certified mail of the Suspension of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, to all clients for whom he is currently handling matters and to all opposing attorneys and presiding Judges in pending litigation. The Respondent shall also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in his care in conformity with the wishes of his clients. The Respondent shall give such notice within 14 days of the effective date of the Suspension, and make such arrangements as are required herein within 45 days of the effective date of the Suspension. The Respondent shall also furnish proof to the Bar within 60 days of the effective day of the Suspension that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements made for the disposition of matters.

It is further **ORDERED** that if the Respondent is not handling any client matters on the effective date of the Suspension, he shall submit an affidavit to that effect within 60 days of the effective date of the Suspension to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System at the Virginia State Bar. All issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required by Paragraph 13-29 shall be determined by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board, which may impose a sanction of Revocation or additional Suspension for failure to comply with the requirements of this subparagraph.

The Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs pursuant to Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-9.E. of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

It is further **ORDERED** that an attested copy of this Order be mailed to the Respondent

by certified mail, return receipt requested, at his last address of record with the Virginia State Bar at 28548 Hawthorne Drive, Meadowview, VA 24361, and a copy by electronic mail, and a copy by electronic mail to Edward J. Dillon, Jr., Senior Assistant Bar Counsel., 1111 East Main Street, Suite 700, Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026.

Entered this 15th day of January 2021.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Yvonne S. Gibney Chair