

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**IN THE MATTER OF
KELLY LYNN DICORRADO**

VSB DOCKET NO. 26-022-136789

**AGREED DISPOSITION MEMORANDUM ORDER
SIX-MONTH SUSPENSION**

On May 20, 2026, this matter was heard, virtually, by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board (the “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 panel consisted of Jennifer D. Royer, Chair (the “Chair”); David R. Tiller; Dawn E. Boyce; Donita M. King; and Dr. Theodore Smith, Lay Member. The Virginia State Bar was represented by Seth T. Shelley, Assistant Bar Counsel. Kelly Lynn DiCorrado (the “Respondent”) was present and was represented by counsel, Jeffrey H. Geiger. 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 this matter to which each member responded in the negative. Jennifer Thomas, court reporter, 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, the Certification, Respondent’s Disciplinary Record, the arguments of the parties, and after due deliberation,

It is **ORDERED** that the Board accepts the Agreed Disposition and the Respondent shall receive a Six-Month Suspension, as set forth in the Agreed Disposition, which is attached and incorporated in this Memorandum Order.

It is further **ORDERED** that the sanction is effective May 20, 2026.


It is further **ORDERED** that the Respondent must comply with the requirements of Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-29 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Respondent must forthwith give notice by certified mail of the Suspension of her license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, to all clients for whom she is currently handling matters and to all opposing Attorneys and presiding Judges in pending litigation. The Respondent must also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in her care in conformity with the wishes of her clients. The Respondent must give such notice immediately and in no event later than fourteen (14) days of the effective date of the Suspension, and make such arrangements as are required herein as soon as is practicable and in no event later than forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the Suspension. The Respondent must also furnish proof to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System of the Virginia State Bar within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the Suspension that such notices have been timely given and such arrangements have been 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, she shall submit an affidavit to that effect within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the Suspension to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System at the Virginia State Bar. The Board must decide all issues concerning the adequacy of the notice and arrangements required herein. The burden of proof shall be on the Respondent to show compliance. If the Respondent fails to show compliance, the Board may impose a sanction of Revocation or additional Suspension for failure to comply with the requirements of subparagraph 13-29.

It is further **ORDERED** that pursuant to Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-9.E, of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Clerk shall assess all costs against the Respondent.

It is further **ORDERED** that an attested copy of this Order be mailed by the Clerk to the Respondent by electronic, first-class and certified mail, return receipt requested, to her Virginia State Bar address of record, at 2048 Quincy Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-3526, and a copy by electronic mail to Jeffrey H. Geiger, Respondent's Counsel and a copy by electronic mail to Seth T. Shelley, Assistant Bar Counsel.

ENTERED THIS **21st** DAY OF MAY, 2026
VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD



Jennifer D. Royer
Chair

RECEIVED
May 6, 2026
VIRGINIA STATE BAR
CLERK'S OFFICE

VIRGINIA:

**BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR**

**IN THE MATTER OF
KELLY LYNN DICORRADO**

VSB Docket No. 26-022-136789

AGREED DISPOSITION
SIX-MONTH SUSPENSION

Pursuant to the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-6.H, the Virginia State Bar, by Seth T. Shelley, Assistant Bar Counsel, and Kelly Lynn DiCorrado, Respondent, and Jeffrey H. Geiger, Respondent's counsel, hereby enter into the following Agreed Disposition arising out of the referenced matter.

I. STIPULATIONS OF FACT

1. Respondent was admitted to the Virginia State Bar ("VSB") in 2015. At all relevant times, Respondent was a member of the VSB.
2. Respondent was appointed in July 2022 by the Norfolk Circuit Court to represent Dequan Copeland ("Complainant") on multiple felony offenses. Complainant was convicted by a jury in February 2024 and subsequently sentenced to thirty years in prison on June 21, 2024.
3. On June 9, 2024, Complainant sent a letter to the Clerk of Norfolk Circuit Court, indicating that he was "requesting an appeal" of his convictions. A handwritten note at the bottom of the page indicates that a copy of the letter was forwarded to Respondent on June 17, 2024, by the Clerk's office.
4. On July 12, 2024, Respondent filed a Motion to Set Aside the Jury Verdicts in Norfolk Circuit Court on behalf of Complainant.
5. A Sentencing Order was entered by the Norfolk Circuit Court on July 25, 2024.
6. On November 25, 2024, Complainant filed a *pro se* Motion for Delayed Appeal in the Court of Appeals of Virginia ("CAV"). Complainant asserted in his motion that Respondent had not filed an appeal as he requested and had failed to respond to "any of my letters or phone calls."
7. On December 2, 2024, Respondent filed a Motion for Delayed Appeal in the CAV on behalf of Complainant. Respondent acknowledged in the motion that she failed to

file a notice of appeal within 30 days of entry of the Sentencing Order. The cover letter to the motion indicates that Respondent mailed a carbon copy to Complainant.

8. On December 17, 2024, the CAV granted leave to file a replacement notice of appeal. Respondent did not do so.
9. On January 8, 2025, Complainant filed a *pro se* Notice of Appeal in the Norfolk Circuit Court.
10. On April 21, 2025, Complainant wrote a letter to the CAV and indicated that he had not communicated with Respondent.
11. On June 3, 2025, the CAV sent an email to Respondent, the Norfolk Commonwealth's Attorney, and the Office of the Attorney General. The CAV reported that the record of the trial proceedings had been received and that the "time for filing the opening brief runs from this date."
12. In a letter received by the CAV on July 9, 2025, Complainant requested new counsel and stated he had "had no contact" with Respondent "since the filing of this appeal."
13. On August 15, 2025, the CAV dismissed the appeal due to Respondent's failure to file an opening brief.
14. In a letter dated August 28, 2025, Complainant filed the instant bar complaint against Respondent.
15. The VSB provided Respondent a copy of the bar complaint and an opportunity to respond but she failed to provide a written response.
16. Respondent did not submit to an interview with the Bar investigator despite multiple attempts to schedule an interview.
17. On October 15, 2025, VSB Investigator John Pucky ("Investigator Pucky") emailed Respondent, but she did not respond. On October 17, 2025, Investigator Pucky left his business card at Respondent's residence, but she did not respond. Respondent represents that she did not receive any business card from Investigator Pucky at her residence and was unaware he had come to her residence.
18. On October 20 and 23, 2025, Investigator Pucky left messages on Respondent's cell phone, but she did not respond.
19. On October 29, 2025, Investigator Pucky texted Respondent and requested that she meet for an interview. Respondent texted back the following day and said she was "unaware of the Complaint." Respondent said she intended to hire counsel.

20. On November 12, 2025, Investigator Pucky texted Respondent and asked if she had retained counsel. On November 20, 2025, Respondent texted that her counsel was conducting a conflicts check.
21. On December 10, 2025, Investigator Pucky sent a text message to Respondent, but she did not respond. On December 15, 2025, Investigator Pucky left a letter in Respondent's mailbox, requesting an interview. Respondent did not respond.
22. On January 7, 2026, Investigator Pucky called Respondent and left a voicemail. Respondent did not respond. On January 14, 2026, Investigator Pucky texted Respondent, but she did not respond.
23. When interviewed by Investigator Pucky on November 19, 2025, Complainant said that he did not know the status of the appeal or the motion to set aside the verdict because Respondent had not communicated with him. Investigator Pucky informed Complainant that the appeal had been dismissed in August 2025, which Complainant was not aware of. Complainant said that Respondent has not visited him at the jail for over a year and had not responded to his phone calls or letters regarding the appeal. Complainant said he called Respondent approximately seven times and sent two letters.
24. Respondent indicates that she did not receive phone calls or correspondence from Complainant.

II. NATURE OF MISCONDUCT

Such conduct by Respondent constitutes misconduct in violation of the following provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct:

By taking no further action on Copeland's behalf after filing the Motion to Set Aside the Jury Verdicts, by failing to file an opening brief which resulted in the dismissal of Copeland's appeal, by failing to take any remedial action after the dismissal of Copeland's appeal, and by failing to provide legal services after filing the Motion for Delayed Appeal, Respondent violated RPC 1.1 and 1.3(a).

RPC 1.1 Competence

A lawyer shall provide competent representation to a client. Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation.

RULE 1.3 Diligence

- (a) A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

By failing to communicate with Copeland after filing the Motion for Delayed Appeal, by failing to inform Copeland that his appeal had been dismissed or provide an update on the status of the Motion to Set Aside the Jury Verdicts, and by failing to instruct or advise Copeland regarding remedial measures after the procedural default, Respondent violated RPC 1.4(a) and (b).

RULE 1.4 Communication

- (a) A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.
- (b) A lawyer shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.

By failing to provide a written response to the bar complaint and by failing to submit to an interview during an investigation of a bar complaint despite multiple requests by the VSB investigator, Respondent violated RPC 8.1(c):

RULE 8.1 Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters

An applicant for admission to the bar, or a lawyer already admitted to the bar, in connection with a bar admission application, any certification required to be filed as a condition of maintaining or renewing a license to practice law, or in connection with a disciplinary matter, shall not:

- (c) fail to respond to a lawful demand for information from an admissions or disciplinary authority, except that this Rule does not require disclosure of information otherwise protected by Rule 1.6; []

III. PROPOSED DISPOSITION

Accordingly, Bar Counsel, Respondent, and Respondent's counsel tender to the Disciplinary Board for its approval the Agreed Disposition of a Six-Month Suspension as representing an appropriate sanction if this matter were to be heard through an evidentiary hearing by the Disciplinary Board. Bar counsel, Respondent, and Respondent's counsel agree that the effective date for the sanction shall be the date of entry of the Disciplinary Board Order approving this Agreed Disposition.


If the Agreed Disposition is approved, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs pursuant to Paragraph 13-9.E of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Pursuant to Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-30.B of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Respondent's prior disciplinary record shall be furnished to the panel of the Disciplinary Board considering this Agreed Disposition.

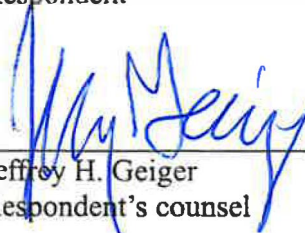
THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR



Seth T. Shelley
Assistant Bar Counsel



Kelly Lynn DiCorrado
Respondent



Jeffrey H. Geiger
Respondent's counsel