

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**IN THE MATTER OF
GORDON BRADFORD JONES**

VS B DOCKET NO. 20-000-118987

**AGREED DISPOSITION MEMORANDUM ORDER
ONE YEAR SUSPENSION WITH TERMS**

On Wednesday, December 02, 2020 this matter was heard by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary 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 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-6.H of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The panel consisted of Carolyn V. Grady, 1st Vice Chair, Kamala H. Lannetti, Michael J. Sobey, Bretta M.Z. Lewis, and Martha J. Goodman, Lay Person. The Virginia State Bar was represented by Paulo E. Franco, Jr., Assistant Bar Counsel. Gordon Bradford Jones was present and was represented by counsel Mary T. Morgan. 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, the Rule to Show Cause and Order of Suspension and Hearing, with attachments, Respondent's Disciplinary Record, the arguments of the parties, and after due deliberation, the Disciplinary Board rejected the Agreed Disposition and made certain recommendations with regard to an acceptable disposition.

UPON CONSIDERATION of the Board's recommendations, the Respondent, his counsel and the Bar agreed that the Respondent shall receive a One Year Suspension with Terms, as set forth in the Amended Agreed Disposition, which is attached and incorporated in this Memorandum Order. On joint motion of the parties, Virginia State Bar Exhibits 1 and 2 are hereby sealed.

It is **ORDERED** that the sanction is effective July 6, 2020.

It is further **ORDERED** that:

The Respondent must comply with the requirements of Part 6, 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 Revocation or 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 Revocation or Suspension, and make such arrangements as are required herein within 45 days of the effective date of the Revocation or Suspension. The Respondent shall also furnish proof to the Bar within 60 days of the effective day of the Revocation or 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 Revocation or Suspension, he shall submit an affidavit to that effect within 60 days of the effective date of the Revocation or 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 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-9.E. of the Rules.

It is further **ORDERED** that an attested copy of this Order be mailed to the Respondent by electronic mail and by certified mail, return receipt requested, and regular mail, at his last address of record with the Virginia State Bar at Gordon Jones Legal, 7946 Yancey Dr., Falls

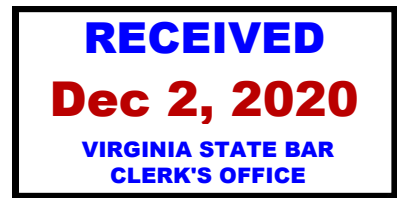
Church, VA 22042, and a copy by electronic mail to Mary T. Morgan, Respondent's counsel,
and to Paulo E. Franco, Jr., Assistant Bar Counsel, Virginia State Bar.

Enter this Order this 2nd day of December, 2020

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Carolyn V. Grady  Digitally signed by Carolyn V.
Grady
Date: 2020.12.02 16:27:38 -05'00'

Carolyn V. Grady
First Vice Chair



VIRGINIA :

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

**IN THE MATTER OF
GORDON BRADFORD JONES**

VS Docket No. 20-000-118987

**AMENDED AGREED DISPOSITION
(ONE YEAR SUSPENSION WITH TERMS)**

Pursuant to the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-6.H., the Virginia State Bar, by Paulo E. Franco, Jr., Assistant Bar Counsel and Gordon Bradford Jones, Respondent, and Mary T. Morgan, Respondent's counsel, hereby enter into the following Amended Agreed Disposition arising out of the referenced matter.

I. STIPULATIONS OF FACT

1. At all relevant times, Respondent was licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. On October 12, 2018, Respondent was arrested in Hanover County, Virginia and charged with possession of a controlled substance (fentanyl), hit and run, DUI - 1st offense, refusal for drug and alcohol screening, and a lane marking violation.
3. He was indicted on those charges July 16, 2019.
4. On September 19, 2019, Respondent entered into a plea agreement whereby the Commonwealth agreed to *nolle prosequi* the hit and run, refusal and lane change charges in exchange for Respondent pleading guilty to possession of a controlled substance and DUI - 1st offense.
5. Respondent was sentenced by the Hanover County Circuit Court to one year in jail for the possession charge. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 150 days suspended, a \$500 fine, and had his driver's license suspended for a period of 1 year

on the charge of DUI - 1st offense. The Court agreed to withhold findings on the possession charge for a period of one year pending his 1 year of probation.

6. On October 14, 2019 Respondent was arrested in York County, Virginia for DUI - 2nd offense.
7. The certificate of analysis from the Virginia Department of Forensics relating to the October 14, 2019 arrest indicated that Respondent had a mixture of opioids, cocaine and other illegal narcotics in his system.
8. After his October 14, 2019 arrest, the court released Respondent on his own recognizance.
9. On October 16, 2019 Respondent was arrested in Hanover County for DUI - 3rd offense.
10. The certificate of analysis from the Virginia Department of Forensics relating to the October 16, 2019 arrest indicated that Respondent had a mixture of opioids, cocaine and other illegal narcotics in his system.
11. Respondent remained incarcerated in the Pamunkey Regional Jail for approximately six months after his arrest on October 16, 2019.
12. On February 11, 2020, Respondent was convicted by the General District Court of York County of DUI - 2nd offense and sentenced to 12 months incarceration with 11 months suspended, 3 years of unsupervised probation, and a 3 year suspension of his driver's license.
13. On March 25, 2020, Respondent was convicted of felony DUI - 3rd offense by the Hanover County Circuit Court and sentenced to 5 years incarceration with all but 6

months suspended, supervised probation and had his driver's license suspended indefinitely.

14. As a result of the felony conviction in Hanover and the sentence imposed on March 25, 2020, the Virginia State Bar entered a Rule to Show Cause and Interim Suspension Order dated July 6, 2020, suspending Respondent's license to practice law as of that date.
15. The Rule to Show Cause was scheduled for July 26, 2020 but was continued by agreement to December 11, 2020 with the interim suspension remaining in place.
16. On November 5, 2020, the Hanover County Circuit imposed a sentence of 5 years with all 5 years suspended on the possession of a controlled substance charge from 2018. As a condition of the suspended sentence, the Hanover County Circuit Court ordered that the Respondent be placed on indefinite supervised probation for a period not to exceed 10 years.
17. Since his release from his incarceration on October 16, 2019, Respondent received outpatient substance abuse treatment through Envision Counseling ("Envision") in Annandale, Virginia.
18. Respondent has provided the Virginia State Bar letters dated May 22, 2020; July 29, 2020; and October 15, 2020 from his Envision counselor, George S. Young, LCSW, MAC outlining Respondent's substance abuse treatment plan/history and his success in their program.
19. Respondent also entered into a monitoring contract with Virginia Judges & Lawyers Assistance Program ("JLAP") that currently runs through July of 2021.

20. Respondent has provided to the Virginia State Bar letters dated September 8, 2020 and November 5, 2020 from JLAP's Clinical Director, James E. Leffler, MS, LPC.
21. Both Envision and Mr. Leffler report that Respondent has responded well to treatment, and Mr. Leffler stated that Respondent continues to abide by the terms of his JLAP monitoring contract.
22. Further, Mr. Leffler opined in his November 5, 2020 letter that he does not "believe [Respondent] is currently suffering from a disability that would affect his ability to practice law."
23. Mr. Leffler further opined that if Respondent "does not maintain his abstinence from alcohol and other substances this will change immediately."
24. Respondent is currently on supervised probation through the Circuit Court of Hanover County, Virginia indefinitely for a period not to exceed ten years.
25. As a result of Respondent's maintaining his current treatment plan with Envision, maintaining the terms of his JLAP monitoring contract, and maintaining the terms and conditions of his supervised probation, Respondent, through his counsel, tender to the Disciplinary Board for its consideration a proposed agreed disposition of one year with terms for disposition of the Rule to Show Cause currently scheduled for a virtual hearing before the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board on December 11, 2020.

II. PROPOSED DISPOSITION

Assistant Bar Counsel and the Respondent tender to the Disciplinary Board for its approval the agreed disposition of **ONE YEAR SUSPENSION with TERMS** as representing an appropriate sanction if this matter were to be heard through an evidentiary hearing by a panel

of the Disciplinary Board. Assistant Bar Counsel and the Respondent agree that the effective date for the sanction shall be the date of entry of the Disciplinary Board Order approving this agreed disposition. The terms with which the Respondent must comply are as follows:

1. Respondent's license to practice law shall be suspended for a period of one year, *nunc pro tunc* to July 6, 2020.
2. Respondent shall continue his abstinence from alcohol and other intoxicating substances and narcotics through his period of probation with the Hanover County Circuit Court.
3. Respondent shall extend his JLAP monitoring contract from July of 2021 through July of 2022 and shall abide by all of its terms and conditions; if Respondent violates any of the terms, JLAP shall immediately provide written notice to the Office of Bar Counsel.
4. Respondent shall abide by all the terms and conditions of his drug and alcohol treatment plans as established by Envision or any other drug and alcohol treatment service that may provide services to Respondent; if Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of his treatment plan, including but not limited to failing a drug or alcohol toxicology screening, Envision or any other drug and alcohol treatment service that may provide services to Respondent shall immediately provide written notice to the Office of Bar Counsel.
5. Respondent shall abide by all the terms and conditions of any and all probation established by the courts in connection with his three convictions; if Respondent violates any of the terms of his probation, his probation officer(s) shall immediately provide written notice to the Office of Bar Counsel;
6. Within thirty (30) days from the date of entry of the Board's Order imposing the suspension, Respondent shall provide written proof to the Office of Bar Counsel that he has provided JLAP, Envision (or any other drug and alcohol treatment service that may provide services to Respondent) and his probation officer(s) with a copy of the order of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board approving this agreed disposition and has taken steps to authorize JLAP, Envision and his probation officer(s) to release any and all information concerning any violation of his terms to the Office of Bar Counsel and to authorize each of them to cooperate fully with the Virginia State Bar and the Office of Bar Counsel.

Upon satisfactory proof that such terms and conditions have been met, this matter shall be closed. If, however, all the terms and conditions are not met by the deadlines imposed above, the Respondent agrees that the Disciplinary Board shall impose an Alternative Sanction of

Suspension of Respondent's license to practice law for a period of 4 (four) years pursuant to Part 6, § IV, Para. 13-18.O. Such further suspension shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any further discipline that may be meted out by the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board in connection with any violations of the terms of the this agreed disposition.

If the agreed disposition is approved, the Clerk of the Disciplinary System shall assess costs pursuant to ¶ 13-9.E of the Rules.

THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR

By: **Paulo E. Franco, Jr.** Digitally signed by Paulo E. Franco, Jr.
Date: 2020.12.02 15:06:20 -05'00'
Paulo E. Franco, Jr., Assistant Bar Counsel



Gordon Bradford Jones, Respondent

Mary T. Morgan
Mary T. Morgan, Respondent's Counsel