

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**IN THE MATTER OF
WILLIAM SHELDON STANCIL**

VS. DOCKET NO. 25-000-134333

**RULE TO SHOW CAUSE
AND
ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

It appearing to the Board that William Sheldon Stancil was licensed to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia on April 21, 1989, and,

It further appearing that William Sheldon Stancil has been suspended from the practice of law in the District of Columbia for a period of ninety days by order dated December 19, 2024.

It further appearing that such disciplinary action has become final.

It is ORDERED, pursuant to Rules of Court, Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-24, that the license of William Sheldon Stancil to practice law within the Commonwealth of Virginia be, and the same is, hereby suspended effective March 4, 2025.

It is further ORDERED that William Sheldon Stancil appear before the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board in the Bank of America Building, Karen G. Gould Hearing Room, 7th Floor, 1111 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, on March 28, 2025, to show cause why the same discipline that was imposed in the other jurisdiction should not be imposed by the Board. Pursuant to Part Six, Section IV, Paragraph 13-24.C of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia, William Sheldon Stancil has 14 days from the date of this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing to file a written response with the Clerk of the Disciplinary System, which shall be confined to argument and exhibits supporting one or more of the grounds for dismissal or imposition of a lesser discipline specified in paragraph 13-24.C. Failure to file a written response within 14 days may

result in the Disciplinary Board's refusal to consider during the hearing in this matter any evidence or argument supporting the existence of one or more of the grounds specified in Paragraph 13-24.C.

It is further ORDERED that William Sheldon Stancil must comply with the requirements of Part 6, 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 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 must also make appropriate arrangements for the disposition of matters then in his care in conformity with the wishes of his clients. The Respondent must give such notice immediately and in no event later than 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 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 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.

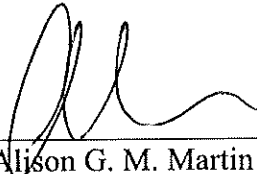
It is further ORDERED that if the Respondent is not handling any client matters on the effective date of the Suspension, he shall submit an affidavit to that effect within 60 days of the effective date of the Suspension to the Clerk of the Disciplinary System at the Virginia State Bar. The Board must 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 a copy of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals Order dated December 19, 2025 be attached to this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing and made a part hereof.

It is further ORDERED that an attested copy of this Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing, with attachments, shall be mailed to William Sheldon Stancil by electronic, first-class and certified mail at his address of record with the Virginia State Bar, PO Box 432012, Los Angeles, CA 90043, and by electronic mail to Jessica C. Beatty, Assistant Bar Counsel.

ENTERED THIS 26th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD



Alison G. M. Martin
Second Vice Chair

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

No. 24-BG-0848

IN RE WILLIAM S. STANCIL, RESPONDENT.

A Suspended Member of the Bar
of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals
(Bar Registration No. 370895)

On Report and Recommendation
of the Board on Professional Responsibility
(BDN No. 21-BD-058; DDN Nos. 2022-D073 & 2022-D142)

(Decided December 19, 2024)

Before: EASTERLY and SHANKER, *Associate Judges*, and RUIZ, *Senior Judge*.

PER CURIAM: The Board on Professional Responsibility recommends that William S. Stancil be suspended from the practice of law for ninety days with reinstatement conditioned upon a showing of fitness based on its finding that he violated D.C. R. Pro. Conduct 1.1(a) & (b), 3.1, and 8.4(d). Although respondent filed non-specific exceptions to the Board's report, he failed to file a brief as directed. Accordingly, as we stated in our November 27, 2024, order, this court determined that we would decide the matter on the record alone.

FILED 12/19/2024
District of Columbia
Court of Appeals
Julio A. Castillo
Julio Castillo
Clerk of Court

Under D.C. Bar R. XI, § 9(h)(2), “if no exceptions are filed to the Board’s report, the [c]ourt will enter an order imposing the discipline recommended by the Board upon the expiration of the time permitted for filing exceptions.” *See also In re Viehe*, 762 A.2d 542, 543 (D.C. 2000) (“When . . . there are no exceptions to the Board’s report and recommendation, our deferential standard of review becomes even more deferential.”). Because no substantive exceptions have been filed and we agree that the Board’s recommended sanction is reasonable and appropriate for the violations presented here,¹ we accept the recommendation that respondent be suspended for ninety days with reinstatement conditioned on demonstrating fitness to practice law. Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that Disciplinary Counsel’s motion to proceed on the record is granted. It is

FURTHER ORDERED that respondent William S. Stancil is hereby suspended from the practice of law in the District of Columbia for ninety days, with reinstatement conditioned on demonstrating fitness to practice law. Respondent’s

¹ *See In re Chapman*, 284 A.3d 395, 398-99, 402-03 (D.C. 2022) (imposing ninety-day suspension for violating Maryland rules concerning competence, filing frivolous claims, and failing to consult with client after he encouraged a client to pay a retainer fee and pursue employment discrimination claim without advising client of administrative exhaustion or statute of limitations issues that were fatal to claim); *see also In re Lea*, 969 A.2d 881, 894 (D.C. 2009) (imposing fitness requirement where attorney failed to participate in disciplinary proceedings).

attention is directed to the requirements of D.C. Bar. R. XI, § 14 and their effect on eligibility for reinstatement. *See* D.C. Bar. R. XI, § 16(c).

So ordered.

