

**REINSTATED ATTORNEYS**

**JAMES N. HANKEY**

Bar No. 016526; File Nos. 11-2357, 12-0576  
PDJ No. 2013-9055

By order dated June 26, 2013, James N. Hankey, Phoenix, was reinstated as an active member of the State Bar of Arizona.

**PAUL M. WEICH**

Bar No. 014089; File No. 12-9107  
PDJ No. 2012-9107  
Sup. Ct. No. SB-13-0017-R

By Arizona Supreme Court order filed July 15, 2013, Paul M. Weich, Phoenix, was reinstated as an active State Bar member, and placed on probation for two years, effective the date of the order.

**SANCTIONED ATTORNEYS**

**JERRY R. ALBERT**

Bar No. 011370; File No. 12-0125  
PDJ File No. 2013-9053

By judgment and order of the presiding disciplinary judge dated June 25, 2013, Jerry R. Albert, Tucson, was reprimanded. He also was assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

Mr. Albert knowingly made a false statement when he failed to tell the court that a question he planned to ask during a criminal trial was redacted in such a way as to make it appear as though the defendant had contradicted herself on a material point, when she had not.

Aggravating factor: substantial experience in the practice of law.

Mitigating factors: absence of a prior disciplinary record, absence of a dishonest or selfish motive, and character or reputation.

Mr. Albert violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.CT., specifically ERs 3.3(a) and 8.4(d).

**JOHN W. DORRIS**

Bar No. 020436; File No. 12-0673  
PDJ No. 2013-9054

By judgment and order of the presiding disciplinary judge filed July 2, 2013, John W. Dorris, Tucson, was reprimanded and placed on probation for one year and ordered to submit to an assessment by the State Bar's Member Assistance Program (MAP) and complete any treatment or comply with any conditions recommended by MAP.

Mr. Dorris was charged with a misdemeanor in Tucson City Court and represented himself. During the case, Mr. Dorris failed to complete the intake process for enrollment in a diversion program and thereafter repeatedly failed to appear in court, causing warrants to be issued for his arrest and his matter to be rescheduled.

Aggravating factor: Substantial experience in the practice of law.

Mitigating factor: Absence of a prior disciplinary record.

Mr. Dorris violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.CT., specifically ER 8.4(d), and Rule 54(c), ARIZ.R.S.CT.

**MONIQUA KENYATTA LANE**

Bar No. 023324; File No. 12-2451  
PDJ File No. 2013-9012

By amended judgment and order of the presiding disciplinary judge dated June 19, 2013, Moniqua Kenyatta Lane, Tucson, was suspended for 100 days effective June 3, 2013. Upon reinstatement, Ms. Lane will be placed on probation for two years. She also was assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

Ms. Lane failed to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client; failed to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter or promptly comply with reasonable requests for information; was

dishonest with the client in her communications regarding the work she had done; failed to provide the client a full accounting after upon the request of the client; and filed to provide the client a complete copy of his file upon termination of the representation. Ms. Lane also failed to respond to the State Bar's screening investigation and lawful demand for information and failed to file an answer in the formal proceedings.

Aggravating factor: bad-faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with the rules or orders of the disciplinary agency.

Mitigating factors: absence of a prior disciplinary record, personal or emotional problems, and character or reputation.

Ms. Lane violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.CT., specifically ERs 1.3, 1.4, 1.15(a), 1.15(d), 1.16(d), 8.4(c), and 8.1(b), and Rules 43(a) and 54(d), ARIZ.R.S.CT.

**JOHN MACMULLIN**

Bar No. 013049; File No. 11-3915  
PDJ No. 2013-9030

By order dated July 8, 2013, the presiding disciplinary judge accepted an agreement for discipline by consent by which John MacMullin was reprimanded and placed on supervised probation for two years. Mr. MacMullin will be required to participate in the State Bar Member Assistance Program and attend the State Bar Continuing Legal Education Program "Ten Deadly Sins of Conflict." Mr. MacMullin also was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,200 and the State Bar's costs and expenses of \$1,200.

In count one, the Probate Court found an "issue of multiple conflicts of interest in (MacMullin's) petitioning for appointment as successor conservator over the objections of his former client" and further that the conflicts may be irreconcilable and not subject to waiver as MacMullin was decedent's stepson; the drafter of the estate planning documents; a beneficiary of the estate; the current attorney of record for the guardian of record; the former attorney of record for the conservator of record; and an adversary of his former client.

Respondent also filed an appeal that the Court of Appeals deemed was "completely devoid of merit."

Aggravating factor: multiple offenses.

Mitigating factors: personal or emotional problems, inexperience in the practice of law and imposition of other penalties or sanctions.

Mr. MacMullin was found to have violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.CT., specifically ERs 1.7, 3.1, and 8.4(d).

**YURI BERNARD NIELSEN**

Bar No. 024154; File Nos. 12-0302, 12-1634, 12-3071, 12-3088, 13-0268, 13-0271 and 13-0729  
PDJ No. 2013-9031

By order dated May 2, 2013, the presiding disciplinary judge accepted Yuri Bernard Nielsen's

consent to disbarment effective immediately.

The consent was based in part on Mr. Nielsen's testimony that he could not account for client funds he withdrew from his firm's client trust account.

**JEFFREY L. PATTEN**

Bar No. 009238; File No. 12-2653

PDJ File No. 2013-9028

By judgment and order of the presiding disciplinary judge dated June 17, 2013, Jeffrey L. Patten, Tucson, was suspended for 18 months retroactive to Feb. 22, 2013. If reinstated, Mr. Patten will be placed on probation for two years. He also was assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

The disciplinary action arose out Mr. Patten's use of methamphetamine and a Pima County Superior Court judgment finding him guilty of solicitation to possess a dangerous drug, methamphetamine, and possession of drug paraphernalia, both class-six undesignated offenses.

Aggravating factors: bad-faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with the rules or orders of the disciplinary agency, substantial experience in the practice of law, and illegal conduct, including that involving the use of a controlled substance.

Mitigating factor: absence of a prior disciplinary record.

Mr. Patten violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.C.T., specifically ERs 8.4(b) and 8.1(b), and Rule 54(d), ARIZ.R.S.C.T.

**MICHAEL STRIZIC**

Bar No.: A Non-Arizona Attorney

Wisconsin Bar No. 1016504

Illinois Bar No.: unknown

File No. 11-1370

PDJ No. 2013-9014

By amended final judgment and order dated May 7, 2013, Michael Strizic, a non-Arizona attorney whose last known addresses were located in Scottsdale and Glendale, was reprimanded. The hearing panel determined that the presumptive sanction for his conduct was disbarment but because Mr. Strizic is not a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the tribunal was limited to the sanction of reprimand. He was also assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

Mr. Strizic prepared trust documents for a client to whom he was not related, and included himself as a beneficiary under the trust. He also held himself out to the public and represented that he was admitted to practice law in Arizona when he was not. Mr. Strizic operated "The Tax Edge" and used the designations "J.D." and "LLM." Finally, Mr. Strizic failed to cooperate with the State Bar's investigation.

Aggravating factors: dishonest or selfish motive, bad-faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with the rules or orders of the disciplinary

agency, and vulnerability of victim.

Mitigating factor: absence of a prior disciplinary record.

Mr. Strizic violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.C.T., specifically ERs 1.8(c) and 5.5(b)(2), and Rule 54(d), ARIZ.R.S.C.T.

**RAYA TAHAN**

Bar No. 022723; File Nos. 12-0706, 12-0826, 12-1618

PDJ No. 2013-9004

By judgment and order dated April 9, 2013, Raya Tahan, Phoenix, was disbarred. She also was assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding and ordered to pay restitution.

Ms. Tahan failed to abide by three clients' decisions concerning the objective of the representation; failed to reasonably communicate with the clients; and ultimately abandoned them. In one of those cases, she accepted a fee but failed to perform the legal services for which she was paid. Further, she failed to return client files or to refund any unearned fees.

In one matter, Ms. Tahan abandoned a client whom she knew to be seriously ill. The client was forced to act pro per and ultimately passed away before she was able to resolve a dispute with a former partner regarding certain real property held jointly between the parties.

In another matter, Ms. Tahan represented a municipality. She pursued a course of action that resulted in the lower court setting a hearing to show cause why Ms. Tahan and the client should not be sanctioned. After the hearing, the court entered an order imposing sanctions against Ms. Tahan and the client, jointly and severally, for \$125,000. The client unsuccessfully appealed from the order arguing, in part, that it neither directed nor was aware of Ms. Tahan's unethical conduct during the representation.

In the final matter, Ms. Tahan was hired to represent a client in an action to foreclose certain real property. Ms. Tahan successfully negotiated a settlement of the case, which resulted in the execution of a warranty deed in lieu of foreclosure. However, Ms. Tahan failed to have the deed recorded or deliver the original to the client and the client was unable to convince the parties to execute a replacement deed.

Finally, Ms. Tahan failed to cooperate with the State Bar's investigation.

Aggravating factors: dishonest or selfish motive, pattern of misconduct, multiple offenses, bad-faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with the rules or orders of the disciplinary agency, and indifference to making restitution.

Mitigating factor: absence of a prior disciplinary record.

Ms. Tahan violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.C.T., specifically ERs 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.16, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3(a), 3.4(c), 4.1, 8.1(b), and 8.4(d), and Rules 54(c), (d)(1) and (2), ARIZ.R.S.C.T.

**JOHN R. THORNTON**

Bar No. 012385; File No. 11-3710

PDJ No. 2013-9018

By judgment and order dated March 11, 2013, John R. Thornton, Prescott, was suspended for two years retroactive to Nov. 19, 2012. He also was assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

On Nov. 13, 2011, Mr. Thornton was arrested on felony charges of aggravated assault with a firearm and disorderly conduct after a man told officers that Mr. Thornton had pointed a gun at him while intoxicated. Mr. Thornton ultimately pled guilty to one count of attempted aggravated assault, a class-4 felony, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1204(A)(2) [a person commits aggravated assault if the person commits assault as prescribed by § 13-1203 if the person uses a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument], § 13-1203 [a person commits assault by intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury], and § 13-1001 [attempt]. Mr. Thornton was sentenced to four years of supervised probation.

Aggravating factor: illegal conduct.

Mitigating factors: absence of a prior disciplinary record, absence of a dishonest or selfish motive, full and free disclosure to disciplinary board or cooperative attitude toward proceedings, character or reputation, and remorse.

Mr. Thornton violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.C.T., specifically ER 8.4(b).

**INGRID-JOY WARRICK**

Bar No. 019624; File No. 11-3236

PDJ No. 2013-9017

By judgment and order dated July 5, 2013, Ingrid-Joy Warrick, Phoenix, was reprimanded and ordered to pay restitution and assessed the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.

Ms. Warrick, a suspended member, possessed a business card, which a member of the public obtained, that identified her as "Ingrid W. Joiya, Esq., Member/Manager" of Elements Therapeutic Dispensary Systems, LLC. (ETD). Ms. Warrick also was ordered to pay restitution in satisfaction of monies owed under the terms of a promissory note that she signed on behalf of ETD.

Aggravating factor: prior disciplinary offenses.

Mitigating factors: absence of a dishonest or selfish motive, full and free disclosure to disciplinary board or cooperative attitude toward proceedings, and inexperience in the practice of law.

Ms. Warrick violated Rule 42, ARIZ.R.S.C.T., specifically ER 5.5.

**CAUTION!** Nearly 17,000 attorneys are eligible to practice law in Arizona. Many attorneys share the same names. All discipline reports should be read carefully for names, addresses and Bar numbers.