

FILE NO. _____

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action
against THOMAS L. OWENS,
a Minnesota Attorney,
Registration No. 121459.

**PETITION FOR
DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

At the direction of a Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board Panel, the Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, files this petition.

The above-named attorney, hereinafter respondent, was admitted to practice law in Minnesota on October 24, 1980. Respondent currently practices law in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Respondent has committed the following unprofessional conduct warranting public discipline:

DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

A. In April 1991 respondent was issued an admonition for neglect, non-communication and other misconduct.

B. In May 1993 respondent entered into a stipulation for private probation, arising out of neglect, non-communication and other misconduct in representing a client.

C. In August 2002 respondent entered into a stipulation for private probation, arising out of neglect and non-communication of a client matter and other misconduct.

D. In 2007 respondent was issued an admonition for failing to communicate adequately with a client.

FIRST COUNT

Barone Matter

1. On May 1, 2012, Joseph Barone retained respondent for representation in a dispute with the landlord of the building in which Barone's business was located.

2. Between May 18 and June 18, 2012, respondent performed no work on the matter.

3. On August 23, 2012, respondent spoke with Barone. Respondent stated that he would prepare a conciliation court claim form for Barone, locate the appropriate courthouse, and the like. Respondent failed, however, to perform any further services on the matter.

4. On two occasions thereafter, Barone emailed respondent, and on at least three to four occasions thereafter Barone telephoned respondent and left a message for respondent to return the call. Respondent failed to respond to any of these requests for communication.

5. Ultimately, Barone retained successor counsel.

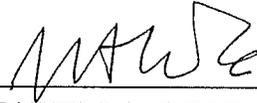
6. Respondent failed to respond promptly to successor counsel's request for Barone's file.

7. Respondent's conduct violated Rules 1.3, 1.4, and 1.16(d), Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct.

WHEREFORE, the Director respectfully prays for an order of this Court imposing appropriate discipline, awarding costs and disbursements pursuant to the

Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility, and for such other, further or different relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: Oct. 30, 2013.



MARTIN A. COLE
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LAWYERS
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

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and



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Attorney No. 19248x