

FILE NO. _____

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Petition for Disciplinary
Action against TROY DANIEL PAUL,
a Minnesota Attorney,
Registration No. 267296.

**PETITION FOR
DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

The Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, files this petition upon the parties' agreement pursuant to Rules 10(a) and 12(a), Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility. The Director alleges:

The above-named attorney, hereinafter respondent, was admitted to practice law in Minnesota on October 25, 1996. Respondent currently practices law in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Respondent has committed the following unprofessional conduct warranting public discipline:

FIRST COUNT

1. In May of 2008, Louis Lokker (Lokker) retained the law firm of Terry, Slane, & Ruohonen to represent him. Respondent, an attorney employed by the firm, was assigned to work on Lokker's case.

2. Lokker's spouse, Kathy Lokker, was injured in a car accident in June 2005. In August 2006, Kathy Lokker died of causes unrelated to the 2005 car accident. Lokker hired respondent's firm to assist him in getting appointed as trustee for the heirs and

next of kin of his spouse so that he could bring a claim for special damages arising from Kathy Lokker's 2005 car accident.

3. Between May and June 2008, respondent gathered information for Lokker's case and began work on Lokker's case.

4. Beginning in July 2008, Lokker called respondent regularly for status updates on his case and inquiring whether a court date had been set in the matter.

5. Beginning in approximately February 2009 through mid May 2009, respondent made a series of misrepresentations to Lokker regarding the status of the case. Respondent informed Lokker that the case was proceeding when, in fact, little action had been taken in the matter since late September 2008.

6. Respondent told Lokker that the petition to appoint Lokker as trustee had been filed with the court. Respondent's statement to Lokker was false.

7. Respondent told Lokker that a court date had been scheduled in the matter, but was canceled as the judge had to preside over a murder trial. Respondent's statement to Lokker was false.

8. Respondent told Lokker that he met with the judge in the matter after hours and the Judge signed an order appointing Lokker as trustee. Respondent's statement to Lokker was false.

9. On May 17, 2009, respondent resigned from the law firm, and wrote to his current clients informing them of his resignation. In his letters, respondent stated that clients had the option to move their files to respondent's new law office, remain with Terry, Slane & Ruohonen, or retain new counsel. Respondent sent such a letter to Lokker.

10. On May 19, 2009, attorney Charles Slane of Terry, Slane & Ruohonen spoke with Lokker. Lokker informed Slane of respondent's false statements to him regarding his case.

11. On May 20, 2009, Lokker discharged respondent as his attorney.

12. Lokker continued to work with the Terry, Slane & Ruohonen firm and on May 22, 2009, Slane filed Lokker's petition for appointment as trustee with the court.

13. On May 22, 2009, respondent wrote the Director and informed him that he made misrepresentations to Lokker.

14. On July 13, 2009, a hearing was held in Lokker's matter, and on July 14, 2009, the court issued an order appointing Lokker as trustee.

15. Respondent's conduct violated Rules 1.3, 1.4(a)(3), 1.4(b), 4.1 and 8.4(c), Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct (MRPC).

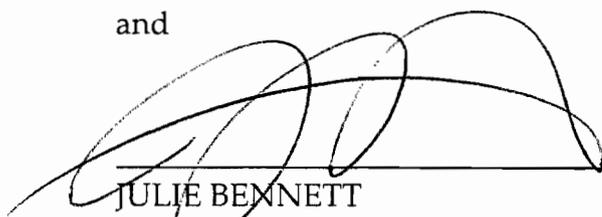
WHEREFORE, the Director respectfully prays for an order of this Court imposing appropriate discipline, awarding costs and disbursements pursuant to the Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility, and for such other, further or different relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: January 27, 2010.



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