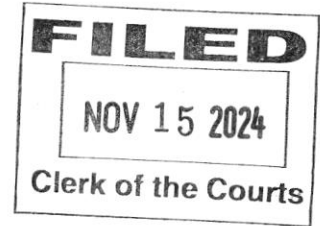


**BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
PANEL A**

IN RE: Angela D. Kendrick, Respondent Attorney
 Arkansas Bar No. 2009024
 Case No. CPC-2023-028



CONSENT FINDINGS AND ORDER

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Consent Findings and Order is based arose from information provided to the Committee by James Lambert against Angela D. Kendrick, an attorney licensed by the Supreme Court of Arkansas assigned Arkansas Bar No. 2009024.

James Lambert (Lambert) hired Angela D. Kendrick (Kendrick) to modify custody and to address some money that was improperly distributed to his ex-wife. On June 4, 2021, Lambert paid Kendrick \$2,550.00 via Cashapp. After time passed, nothing had been done, and the case had not been reopened, so Lambert emailed Kendrick. The email exchanges are summarized as follows:

- On November 27, 2022, Lambert emailed Kendrick and told her that he was highly disappointed in her services in that nothing had been done since she was hired in June 2021. Lambert asked for a full refund and for his case file and provided Kendrick with a mailing address.
- On January 8, 2023, Lambert reminded Kendrick that he had terminated the representation on November 27, 2022, and asked for a refund and a copy of his file. He recalled that Kendrick called him the next day, on November 28, 2022, and confirmed receipt of his email, and said that he would have his file by the end of the week. On the phone, Kendrick said that because of the contract he signed, he would not receive a full refund. Lambert told Kendrick that he did not sign a contract, so he was entitled to a full refund. Per Lambert's email, he was still waiting on both his file and refund.

- On January 9, 2023, Kendrick responded and said, "Mr. Lambert your file was mailed to you. I will call you when I get out of court."
- On January 18, 2023, Kendrick told Lambert that she had attempted to reach him by phone, and again said that his file was previously mailed to him.
- Lambert responded on January 18, 2023, and said that he had not gotten his file, despite having asked for it beginning November 2022. Lambert acknowledged that Kendrick had called, but that she did not leave voicemails, and told Kendrick that they did not have anything else to discuss, and that the request for a refund and his file still stands.
- Kendrick responded on January 18, 2023, and said "I will scan your file and email it to you tomorrow. You will need to acknowledge receipt. Your refund will be mailed to you tomorrow. There will be no further emails from my office after you confirm receipt of your file."
- Lambert responded on January 19, 2023, and requested that Kendrick refund the fees via Cashapp.

Lambert had no further contact from Kendrick, the case was never reopened, and he had not received his file or refund as of January 19, 2023.

On January 3, 2024, Lambert received a refund of the \$2,500.00, prior to service of the Formal Complaint in this matter.

Upon consideration of the formal complaint and attached exhibit materials and the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct, Panel A of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

1. Kendrick's conduct violated Rule 1.3 when she failed to take any action on Lambert's matter for seventeen (17) months. This is both a lack of diligence and promptness. Arkansas Rule

1.3 requires that a lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

2. Kendrick's conduct violated Rule 1.4(a)(3) when she failed to keep Lambert reasonably informed about the status of the case and failed to provide an explanation for her delay and inaction. Arkansas Rule 1.4(a)(3) provides that a lawyer shall keep the client reasonably informed about the matter.

3. Kendrick's conduct violated Rule 1.5 when she took \$2,550.00, which included a fee for reopening the case, but never did so. Kendrick benefitted from Lambert's legal fee but provided no legal services in return, which is an unreasonable fee. Arkansas Rule 1.5 provides that a lawyer's fee shall be reasonable.

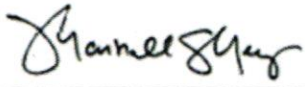
4. Kendrick's conduct violated Rule 1.16(d) when she failed to provide Lambert with his file and a refund, after being requested in November 2022. Arkansas Rule 1.16(d) provides that, upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests, such as surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled and refunding any advance payment of fee or expense that has not been earned or incurred. administration of justice.

5. Kendrick's conduct violated Rule 8.4(c) when she misrepresented her attempts to wrap-up the representation after she was terminated by Lambert. Kendrick said she mailed Lambert's file, but he did not receive it. After notification that he had not received the file or a refund, Kendrick advised Lambert she would provide both the file and refund the next day but did not. Rule 8.4(c) states it is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

WHEREFORE, in accordance with the consent to discipline presented by Ms. Kendrick, her attorney, and the Interim Executive Director, it is the decision and order of the Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, acting through it authorized Panel A, that Angela Diane Kendrick, Arkansas Bar ID #2009024, be and hereby is **REPRIMANDED** for her conduct in this matter, and she agrees and is ordered to pay \$150.00 (ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS) costs. The costs assessed herein, shall be payable by cashier's check or money order payable to the "Clerk, Arkansas Supreme Court" delivered to the Office of Professional Conduct within thirty (30) days of the date this Consent Findings and Order is filed of record with the Clerk of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT
COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

By: 

Marshall S. Ney, Chair, Panel A

Date: November 11, 2024