



# Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct

## 2024 Annual Report

## Office of Professional Conduct

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Arkansas Judiciary Homepage <a href="https://www.arcourts.gov/">https://www.arcourts.gov/</a>

Arkansas Attorney Discipline Homepage <a href="https://www.arcourts.gov/professional-conduct">https://www.arcourts.gov/professional-conduct</a>

#### I. Introduction

**Authority:** Pursuant to the Procedures of the Arkansas Supreme Court Regulating Professional Conduct of Attorneys at Law ("Procedures"), the Committee on Professional Conduct ("Committee") is granted the authority to investigate all complaints alleging violation of the Arkansas Model Rules of Professional Conduct and impose any sanctions permitted and deemed appropriate. During 2002, major revisions to the Procedures adopted by *Per Curiam* Order of the Arkansas Supreme Court on July 9, 2001, effective on January 1, 2002, were implemented. The Committee again submitted major proposed revisions of the Procedures to the Court on December 15, 2010, which were adopted by the Court in its *Per Curiam* issued and effective May 26, 2011, found at 2011 Ark. 242.

**History:** Amendment 28 to the Arkansas Constitution was adopted by the voters in 1938. The amendment placed with the Arkansas Supreme Court the authority to regulate the practice of law in Arkansas and to regulate, and thereby discipline, attorneys. In 1939, the Bar Rules Committee, an entity of the Arkansas Bar Association and the forerunner of the present Committee on Professional Conduct, was established. In 1940, the Canons for Professional Conduct of Lawyers was approved. The Arkansas version of the American Bar Association's Model Code of Professional Responsibility was first adopted by the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1970. A revised version of the Code became effective July 1, 1976. The Arkansas version of the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct was adopted by the Arkansas Supreme Court and became effective January 1, 1986. Various revisions have been made to the Arkansas version of the Model Rules since 1986. Comprehensive revisions became effective May 1, 2005, as the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct, now found at pages 409-537 of the 2024 Court Rules, Volume 2, of the Arkansas Code. The attorney discipline Procedures implementing these Rules are in the same Volume 2, at pages 357-407. On May 26, 2011, the Supreme Court adopted and made effective significant revisions to the Procedures, in a *Per Curiam* found at 2011 Ark. 242.

**Mission**: The purpose of lawyer discipline and disability proceedings is to maintain appropriate standards of professional conduct in order to protect the public and the administration of justice from lawyers who have demonstrated by their conduct that they are unable or are likely to be unable to properly discharge their professional duties. Standard 1.1 of the ABA's 1979 Standards for Lawyer Discipline and Disability Proceedings.

## II. Structure

#### 1. COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

For the year 2024, the Committee continued to operate in the model of four Panels authorized by the Supreme Court as of January 1, 2002, designated Panels A, B, C, and D. Each panel is composed of seven members appointed by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Five members are lawyers, with one lawyer appointed from each Congressional District and one from the State at large. The remaining two positions are filled by persons who are not lawyers and are selected by the Court from the state at large. Panel membership in 2024 was as follows:

Panel A: Don R. Etherly, Helena, Attorney, First Congressional District Larry Jegley, Little Rock, Attorney, Second Congressional District Marshall S. Ney, Rogers, Attorney, Third Congressional District Michael W. Boyd, Magnolia, Attorney, Fourth Congressional District Erin E. Cassinelli, Little Rock, Attorney at Large Paul W. Hoggard, Piggott, Non-attorney at Large Megan Beeson Turner, Little Rock, Non-attorney at Large

Panel B: Mark W. Rees, Jonesboro, Attorney, First Congressional District David P. Glover, Little Rock, Attorney, Second Congressional District Wendy R. Howerton, Attorney, Third Congressional District LeAnne P. Burch, Monticello, Attorney, Fourth Congressional District Timothy F. Snively, Fayetteville, Attorney, Attorney at Large Elmer Ritchie, Little Rock, Non-attorney at Large Carlton Saffa, Little Rock, Non-attorney at Large

Panel C: Robert Bridewell, Lake Village, Attorney, First Congressional District JaNan Arnold Thomas, Little Rock, Attorney, Second Congressional District Candice A. Settle, Van Buren, Attorney, Third Congressional District Jackie B. Harris, Pine Bluff, Attorney, Fourth Congressional District Susan Keller Kendall, Springdale, Attorney, At Large Mark F. Smith, Marianna, Non-attorney at Large Judith Humphries, Little Rock, Non-attorney at Large

Panel D: James Gregory Crumpton, Cabot, Attorney, First Congressional District Scott S. Hilburn, Little Rock, Attorney, Second Congressional District Shane M. Wilkinson, Bentonville, Attorney, Third Congressional District Walter W. Barton, Monticello, Attorney, Fourth Congressional District Angela S. Cole Lowther, Little Rock, Attorney at Large Joe Jett, Success, Non-attorney at large William A. Finer, Fayetteville, Non-attorney at large

#### The **2024 Executive Committee** consisted of:

Michael W. Boyd, Panel A, Committee Chair Timothy F. Snively, Fayetteville, Panel B, Committee Secretary Marshall S. Ney, Rogers, Panel A Chair LeAnne P. Burch, Monticello, Panel B Chair Robert Bridewell, Lake Village, Panel C Chair

#### The **2025 Executive Committee** will consist of:

LeAnne P. Burch, Monticello, Panel B, Committee Chair Marshall S. Ney, Rogers, Panel A, Committee Secretary Don R. Etherly, Helena, Panel A Chair Wendy R. Howerton, Fayetteville, Panel B Chair Robert Bridewell, Lake Village, Panel C Chair

Panel C primarily serves: (1) as the review panel for dismissals of grievances by the staff, (2) as a fourth hearing panel as needed, and (3) individual Panel C members are used as substitute panel members when a member of Panel A, B, or D is not available or has disqualified in any case on a ballot vote or a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR:**

Panel A meets on the third Friday of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Panel B meets on the third Friday of the months of February, April, June, August, October, and the second Friday of December.

Panel D meets on the second Friday of the months of February, April, June, August, October, and the first Friday of December.

Panel C meets "on call" for special settings of hearings.

#### 2. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Committee employs an attorney Executive Director and staff who function as the Office of Professional Conduct, which is housed in offices at the Winthrop Rockefeller Building, 501 Woodlane Street, Suite 520-S, Little Rock, AR 72201. The Office of Professional Conduct receives all grievances involving attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas, investigates the grievances, provides assistance in the preparation of formal complaints, and processes formal complaints for submission to the Committee. The budget of the Committee and Office for 2024-2025 is about \$1,006,820 (allocated as: \$544,571 for personnel and \$462,249 for operations), completely funded by the Supreme Court by a portion of the annual license fee paid by Arkansas-licensed attorneys to the Arkansas Supreme Court. No state or taxpayer funds are directly provided to support the office and committee.

The Office of Professional Conduct is staffed by four staff attorneys, a paralegal, an investigator, and one grievance coordinator. The staff attorneys perform all duties and possess such authority of the Executive Director as the Executive Director may delegate, except for the final determination of sufficiency of formal complaints. In addition to Executive Director, Lisa Ballard, the Office staff attorneys during 2024 were Charlene Fleetwood - Deputy Director, Anna Catherine Cargile - Senior Staff Attorney, and Cameron Thomas Bowden - Staff Attorney.

In 2024, as in previous years, the staff presented several "continuing legal education" programs or speeches on law-related topics across the state.

The Arkansas Supreme Court has not authorized the Office of Professional Conduct to give advice or legal opinions, formal or informal, on legal or ethical issues to anyone.

The Office of Professional Conduct also provides staff support for the Supreme Court's Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee and the Client Security Fund Committee.

### III. Administration

The Office of Professional Conduct receives telephone calls, letters, e-mails and faxes from individuals across the country requesting information on how to initiate grievances against attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Arkansas. During the 2024 calendar year, the Office opened 635 new grievance files on alleged attorney misconduct. This number was a decrease from 689 new files opened in 2023. See attached Appendix A.

In 2024, 300 grievance files were closed, down from 540 files closed in 2023. For additional statistical information, see attached Appendix B.

### IV. 2024 Formal Actions Initiated

In 2024, there were eleven (11) new formal Complaint cases opened, down from the thirty-three (33) new formal Complaint cases opened in 2023. In 2024, seventeen (17) formal Complaint cases were closed, compared to thirty-seven (37) closed in 2023.

## V. 2024 Final Committee Actions

Final action was taken in sixteen (16) formal Complaint cases involving Arkansas attorneys during the 2024 calendar year by the Office and the Committee on Professional Conduct. There are five primary forms of action, or sanction, that the Committee on Professional Conduct may take. The lowest sanction, a warning, is non-public. The other forms of sanction - caution, reprimand, license suspension, and disbarment - are public sanctions. In 2024, eight (8) attorneys received at least one public sanction, down from sixteen (16) in 2023.

#### VI. 2024 - Most Common Rule Violations

In 2024, the most common rule violations involved Arkansas Rules 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (acting with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client), 1.4(a) (client communication), and 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). A list containing the Arkansas Rule alleged and the number of times the Committee found the rule to have been violated in 2024 is attached as Appendix "C".

## VII. "Practice Aging" of Attorneys Disciplined (2024)

Of the 2024 final disciplinary actions by the Committee, based on number of years licensed in Arkansas, eight (8) attorneys were <u>publicly</u> sanctioned as follows. (Attorney age information is not available):

Years Licensed	No. of Attorneys Publicly Sanctioned	Percentage				
01-10 (2015-2024)	1	12.50%				
11-20 (2005-2014)	1	12.50%				
21-30 (1995-2004)	4	50.00%				
31-40 (1985-1994)	1	12.50%				
41+ (before 1985)	1	12.50%				
Total	8	100%				

(Some attorneys were publicly sanctioned more than once in 2023.)

## VIII. 2024 Fines, Restitution & Costs

Туре	Amount Imposed (2024)	Amount Collected (2024)
FINES:	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 11,329.52
RESTITUTION:	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 32,174.30
COSTS:	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,200.00
TOTALS:	\$ 8,250.00	\$ 44,703.82

(Note: Some of the collections in 2024 were assessed in cases finalized in earlier years.)

## IX. 2024 Trust Account "Overdraft" Reporting

There were thirteen (13) notices received in 2024 from all banks and reporters, compared to thirty-two (32) in 2023. Most of these files were closed after a summary investigation and explanation by the attorney involved. None of the 2024 files has resulted in filing a formal Complaint to date.

There are a few 2024 files still "open" to some extent, such as awaiting additional documentation from the attorney. Of those, none are believed to involve a loss of client funds.

The overwhelming majority of overdraft reports were due to some form of "attorney/firm error" such as bookkeeping math mistakes, failure to make timely deposits of settlement funds, release of settlement checks to clients and third parties before settlement funds were available in the trust account, depositing checks into the wrong account, failure to account for IOLTA interest withdrawals or bank service fees, client fee and expense checks bouncing, etc. Some admitted bank errors are reported.

## X. Summaries of 2024 Public Sanctions – Appendix "D"

	Number	Designation	Description	Annual Total
2		Attorney		
3	001	A-A/C	Attorney Conduct	27
4	002	A-A/S	Advertisement / Solicitation	0
5		Criminal		
6	003	CR-D	Criminal Defense	170
7	004	CR-P	Criminal Prosecution	62
8	005	CR-A	Criminal Appeal	14
9		<b>Domestic Relations</b>		
10	006	DR-D	Divorce	58
11	007	DR-C	Custody	43
12	008	DR-C/S	Child Support	10
13	009	DR-QDRO	Qualified Domestic Relations Order	0
14	010	DR-V	Visitation	2
15	011	DR-DA/OP	Domestic Abuse / Order of Protection	1
16	012	DR-P	Paternity	0
17		Juvenile		
18	013	J-DHS	Department of Human Services	15
19	014	J-FINS	Families in Need of Services	0
20		Probate		
21	015	PR-E	Estate	36
22	016	PR-T	Trust	8
23	017	PR-W	Will	4
24	018	PR-POA	Power of Attorney	1
25	019	PR-G	Guardianship	8
26	020	PR-A	Adoption	3
27	021	PR-CC	Civil Commitment	1
28		Bankruptcy		
29	022	BNK-7	Chapter 7	3
30	023	BNK-11	Chapter 11	0
31	024	BNK-13	Chapter 13	4
32		Civil		
33	025	CV-A	Appeal	2
34	026	CV-C	Contract	8
35	027	CV-DC	Debt Collection	7
36	028	CV-F	Foreclosure	1
37	029	CV-J	Judgment	0
38	030	CV-LL/TN	Landlord / Tenant	8
39	031	CV-MM	Medical Malpractice	6
40	032	CV-MVA	Motor Vehicle Accident	17
41	033	CV-FED	Civil - Federal	0
42	034	CV-PI	Personal Injury	5
43	035	CV-PR	Property	22
44	036	CV-T	Tort	2

	0.2-	G11.115	I	
45	037	CV-UD	Unlawful Detainer	0
46	038	CV-N	Negligence	2
47	039	CV-INJ	Injunction	0
48	040	CV-MISC	Miscellaneous	41
49		Miscellaneous		
50	041	SSD-SSI	Social Security Disability / Income	1
51	042	WC	Workers Compensation	1
52	043	ACC	Arkansas Claims Commission	0
53	044	IMGN	Immigration	8
54	045	SCPC	Supreme Court Per Curiam	0
55	046	ARGV	Arkansas State Government	4
56	047	IRS	Federal or State Taxes	4
57	048	EMP	Employment	25
58	049	DC-SC	District Court - Small Claims	0
59	050	INT-PR	Intellectual Property	0
60	051	BS-CP	Business / Corporation	0
61	052	USVA	Veterans Administration	1
			TOTAL GRIEVANCES:	635
No.	Disposition	Description		
0	Formal	Formal Complaint		
0	Diversion	Diversion / Probation		
3	ACL	Atty/Client Resolution Letter		
87	NPC*	No Probable Cause		
2	W/D*	Withdrawn by Complainant		
0	Merged-S	Merged with Surrender		
0	Merged-D	Merged with Disbarment		
0	Disbarred	Closed - Disbarred		
1	Closed-D	Closed - Deceased		
0	Closed-S	Closed - Surrendered		
0	FTR	Complainant Failed to Respond		
0	UPL	Unauthorized Practice of Law		
5/1	Onan*	Investigation Pending	*There are 386 additional cases still open	
541	Open*	investigation rending	from previous years	
0	FWD	Transfer to Alt. Jurisdiction		
1	Closed-A	Administrative Closure		
1				

## APPENDIX "B"

Cotogor	2005	2007	2007	2000	2000	2010	2011	2012	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2019	2010	2020	2021	2022	2022	2024
Category Files	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	826	804	819	859	861	888	735	794	716	744	657	725	616	697	607	559	569	620	689	635
opened Closed by																				
staff	868	1137	784	786	742	845	806	646	478	732	595	663	550	549	557	675	796	684	540	300
Complaints																				
filed	159	156	140	114	144	119	97	85	67	51	57	52	34	33	44	30	32	35	33	11
Appellate																				
Referrals	34	39	50	33	41	18	17	40	7	14	7	14	3	2	1	3	0	0	1	1
Judicial																				
Referrals	8	19	6	4	4	6	10	18	3	8	11	7	13	13	4	9	9	4	13	3
Attorney																				
Referrals	7	16	9	15	15	7	14	38	37	28	33	14	9	16	2	13	2	22	14	15
Complaints																				
closed	181	173	182	122	128	119	106	74	78	63	45	53	47	41	26	21	16	24	37	17
Withdrawn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	2	0	0
No Actions	18	19	13	10	11	10	7	4	4	5	2	3	5	2	0	1	2	5	1	2
Warnings	33	53	41	37	46	26	20	13	8	10	17	14	10	6	2	1	12	5	1	2
Cautions	41	29	34	20	28	15	24	8	10	17	10	7	6	9	3	4	8	2	1	1
Reprimands	31	30	26	14	14	19	20	11	11	5	7	7	11	9	2	5	10	5	4	2
Suspensions	17	12	23	12	10	10	11	9	12	4	3	5	13	14	6	4	3	9	9	6
Surrenders	6	7	1	6	5	3	14	8	3	2	6	6	1	0	9	5	3	0	5	3
Merge /			1	U		3	17	0	3		U	U	1	U	,	3		U	3	3
surrender	5	4	0	6	18	6	9	1	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Deemed																				
Surrendered	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	0	0	0	1	0	41	31
(Rule 7)	1 1// 1	14/11	11/11	14/11	1 1/21	1 1// 1	1 1// 1	14/11	14/11	14/21	1071	14/11	3	· ·			1		11	31
Disbarment																				
initiated	7	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0
Disbarments	0	2	2	2	4	3	0	0	5	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Reinstated	13	11	6	0	6	2	2	5	9	7	11	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	4	3
Consents	51	64	٣	45	50	28	29	18	7	8	13	13	14	7	4	6	7	4	0	4
Refer to															-					
ArJLAP	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Attys																				
Publicly	102	68	67	49	44	44	60	29	30	27	25	21	18	23	20	18	17	14	16	8
Sanctioned*																				

<sup>\*</sup> Some attorneys were publicly sanctioned more than once.

#### APPENDIX "C"

Alleged	No.	Alleged	No.	Found	No.	Found	No.
1.1	6	1.16(a)(1)		1.1	5	1.16(a)(1)	
1.1(d)		1.16(a)(2)		1.1(d)		1.16(a)(2)	
1.2		1.16(c)		1.2		1.16(c)	
1.2(a)		1.16(d)	3	1.2(a)		1.16(d)	2
1.2(b)		1.19(a)		1.2(b)		1.19(a)	
1.2(d)		1.19(a)(3)		1.2(d)		1.19(a)(3)	
1.3	9	1.19(b)(1)		1.3	7	1.19(b)(1)	
1.4(a)	1	2.1		1.4(a)		2.1	
1.4(a)(1)		3.1		1.4(a)(1)		3.1	
1.4(a)(2)		3.2	2	1.4(a)(2)		3.2	1
1.4(a)(3)	4	3.3(a)		1.4(a)(3)	3	3.3(a)	
1.4(a)(4)	3	3.3(a)(1)		1.4(a)(4)	2	3.3(a)(1)	
1.4(a)(5)		3.3(a)(3)		1.4(a)(5)		3.3(a)(3)	
1.4(b)		3.4(a)		1.4(b)		3.4(a)	
1.5	1	3.4(b)		1.5	1	3.4(b)	
1.5(a)		3.4(c)	1	1.5(a)		3.4(c)	1
1.5(a)(5)		3.4(d)		1.5(a)(5)		3.4(d)	
1.5(b)(2)		3.7(a)		1.5(b)(2)		3.7(a)	
1.5(c)	1	4.1(a)		1.5(c)	1	4.1(a)	
1.5(d)		4.1(b)		1.5(d)		4.1(b)	
1.6(a)		4.2		1.6(a)		4.2	
1.6(c)		4.3		1.6(c)		4.3	
1.7(a)		4.4		1.7(a)		4.4	
1.7(a)(2)		4.4(a)		1.7(a)(2)		4.4(a)	
1.8(a)		5.3(b)		1.8(a)		5.3(b)	
1.8(b)		5.4(a)		1.8(b)		5.4(a)	
1.8(c)		5.4(a)(2)		1.8(c)		5.4(a)(2)	
1.8(e)		5.5(a)		1.8(e)		5.5(a)	
1.8(i)		5.7		1.8(i)		5.7	
1.8(j)		7.1		1.8(j)		7.1	
1.9(a)		7.1(b)		1.9(a)		7.1(b)	
1.9(b)		7.2(e)		1.9(b)		7.2(e)	
1.14(a)		7.3(a)		1.14(a)		7.3(a)	
1.14(b)		7.5(d)		1.14(b)		7.5(d)	
1.15(a)(1)	1	8.1		1.15(a)(1)	1	8.1	
1.15(a)(2)		8.1(a)		1.15(a)(2)		8.1(a)	
1.15(a)(4)		8.1(b)	1	1.15(a)(4)		8.1(b)	1
1.15(a)(5)		8.2(a)		1.15(a)(5)		8.2(a)	
1.15(a)(6)		8.3(a)		1.15(a)(6)		8.3(a)	
1.15(b)(1)	1	8.4(a)	1	1.15(b)(1)	1	8.4(a)	1
1.15(b)(3)		8.4(b)		1.15(b)(3)		8.4(b)	
1.15(b)(9)	1	8.4(c)	3	1.15(b)(9)	1	8.4(c)	2
1.15(b)(10)	1	8.4(d)	7	1.15(b)(10)	1	8.4(d)	7
1.16(a)		8.4(e)		1.16(a)		8.4(e)	
Subtotal	29	Subtotal	18	Subtotal	23	Subtotal	15
		TOTAL*	47			TOTAL**	38

<sup>\*</sup>Total **alleged** may include pending allegations that haven't been found yet.

\*\*Total <u>found</u> may include alleged rule violations from previous years resolved in 2024.

## Appendix "D" – 2024 Cases

#### **SUSPENSION:**

**HOWARD, WILLIAM McNOVA, of Pine Bluff, ABN: 87087**, in Committee Case No. CPC-2023-025, on a complaint by Deric Smith, by Findings & Order filed January 23, 2024, was SUSPENDED for TWELVE (12) MONTHS, and assessed costs of \$150.00, for violations of AR Rules 1.1, 1.3, 3.4(c), and 8.4(d). Howard failed to timely file the record and then failed to file the brief for his client's appeal, to the detriment of his client's case.

MUKE, IRIS L., of Clarksville, Arkansas, ABN: 2003119, in Committee Case No. CPC-2023-029, on a complaint by Elaine Troglin, by Findings and Order entered April 5, 2024, was suspended from the practice of law for a period of twenty-four (24) months and assessed costs of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for violations of AR Rules 1.3 and 8.4(d). Troglin hired Iris Muke to file a Petition for Expungement in a criminal matter in 2021. When Troglin requested an update, Muke stated that the petition was filed, and she was only waiting for a signature from the presiding judge. The Johnson County Circuit Clerk's Office confirmed that no such petition was ever filed.

HOWARD, WILLIAM McNOVA, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas ABN: 87087, in Committee Case No. CPC-2024-002, on a complaint by Joshua Lasley, by Consent Findings and Order filed April 22, 2024, was suspended from the practice of law for a period of twelve (12) months, effective January 23, 2024, to run concurrent with his suspension in CPC-2023-025 for violations of AR Rules 1.1, 1.3, 3.2, and 8.4(d). Upon his reinstatement to the practice of law, Howard shall no longer provide any appellate services in his practice. Howard failed to file the record in his client's case and launch his appeal to the detriment of his client.

**PEARSON, MELYNDA GIBSON, of Texarkana, Arkansas, ABN: 95076**, in Committee Case No. CPC-2019-029, on a complaint by Juan Moreno, by Findings & Order filed August 14, 2024, was SUSPENDED for SIX (6) MONTHS, assessed costs of \$150.00, and ordered to pay restitution of \$2,500.00, for violations of AR Rules 1.1, 1.3, 1.4(a)(3), 1.4(a)(4), and 8.4. Pearson failed to provide competent representation to her client, which resulted in her client being held in contempt.

#### STAYED SUSPENSION:

**KLOCK, ROBERT DAVID, of Bentonville, ABN: 76066**, in Committee Case No. CPC-2023-017, on a complaint by Nery Ramos, by Findings & Order filed January 26, 2024, was SUSPENDED for SIX (6) MONTHS, ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000.00, assessed costs of \$150.00, and ordered to pay restitution of \$1,700.00, for violations of AR Rules 1.1 and 8.4(d). Klock filed immigration documents that could expose his client to deportation proceedings. The suspension was stayed and Klock was ordered to complete six (6) months of supervised probation.

#### **INTERIM SUSPENSION:**

**GREEN, CHAD MARTIN, of Little Rock, ABN: 2003081**, in Committee Case No. CPC-2024-006, on a petition before the Committee, by Order of Interim Suspension issued June 13, 2024, was placed on Interim Suspension for allegations of criminal conduct, detailed in Little Rock District Court records, and posed a substantial threat of serious harm to the public and to his clients. Green executed an agreement consenting to the interim suspension.

#### **REPRIMAND:**

**DEVINE, MARCUS CHRISTIAN, of Little Rock, Arkansas ABN: 98097,** in Committee Case No. CPC-2023-032, on a complaint by Erica Bing, by Findings and Order entered June 17, 2024, was reprimanded and fined two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for violations of AR Rules 1.15(a)(1), 1.15(b)(1), 1.15(b)(9), 1.15(b)(10), and 8.4(c). Devine represented clients in personal injury matters and upon receiving insurance settlement proceeds from those actions, deposited the proceeds into his business and personal accounts. He commingled funds owed to his client with his personal and business accounts and paid the clients their share of the proceeds from his business and/or personal accounts instead of maintaining an IOLTA account as required by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Devine also failed to accurately complete his IOLTA Compliance Statements to show he handled client funds.

**KENDRICK, ANGELA DIANE, of Little Rock, Arkansas, ABN: 2009024**, in Committee Case No. CPC-2023-028, on a complaint by James Lambert, by Consent Findings & Order filed November 15, 2024, was REPRIMANDED and assessed costs of \$150.00, for violations of AR Rules 1.3, 1.4(a)(3), 1.5, 1.16(d), and 8.4(c). Kendrick failed or refused to provide the legal services for which she was paid by Lambert. Kendrick refunded the fees after OPC filed a formal complaint.

#### **CAUTION:**

CURTIS, DREW LANDON, of Little Rock, Arkansas, ABN: 2022137, in Committee Case No. CPC-2024-005, on a complaint Shawn McLemore, by Findings and Order entered September 10, 2024, was CAUTIONED and assessed costs of \$150.00, for violations of AR Rules 1.1, 1.3, 8.4(a), and 8.4(d). Curtis failed to provide competent and diligent representation, to the detriment of his client's case.