



# OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

March 3, 2025

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Via email only to: [steve@ilimer.com](mailto:steve@ilimer.com)

*In re Charles T. Tucker, Jr., Esquire*  
Disciplinary Docket No. 2019-D209  
D.C. Bar Membership No. 993515

Dear Mr. Tucker:

This office has completed its investigation of the above-referenced matter. We find that your conduct reflected a disregard of certain ethical standards under the District of Columbia Rules of Professional Conduct (the "Rules"). We are therefore issuing you this Informal Admonition pursuant to D. C. Bar Rule XI, §§ 3, 6, and 8.

This matter was docketed for investigation based on a referral from the Honorable S. Martin Teel, Jr., U.S. Bankruptcy Judge. Based on our investigation of this matter, we find that your conduct violated Rule 8.4(d). We find as follows:

On November 22, 2017, you agreed to represent L.W. in filing a Chapter 13 bankruptcy petition. You were already defending L.W. in a foreclosure matter pending in D.C. Superior Court.

You filed a petition for Chapter 13 reorganization on L.W.'s behalf on December 12, 2017, in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Columbia. The matter was assigned to Judge Teel.

The Chapter 13 Trustee filed a Motion to Dismiss the petition because L.W. was not making payments in accordance with the reorganization plan. The court originally scheduled a hearing on the motion for July 12, 2019, but later *sua sponte* changed the hearing date to July 26, 2019.

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515 5th Street N.W., Building A, Room 117, Washington, D.C. 20001 ▪ 202-638-1501, FAX 202-638-0862

You realized that you had a hearing on a different matter in state court in Virginia on the same date and that you likely would not be able to arrive in D.C. in time for the hearing before Judge Teel. You did not notify the court ahead of the hearing about the conflict in your schedule and seek to reschedule the hearing. L.W. also did not appear at the hearing. The Court dismissed your client's petition.

The Court instituted show cause proceedings and ultimately sanctioned you for your conduct. In its sanction order, the Court noted that your "professional misconduct . . . imposed an unwarranted burden on the court in having to address such misconduct." August 23, 2019 Order.

### **Analysis**

We find that your conduct violated Rule 8.4(d) (prohibiting a lawyer from engaging in conduct that seriously interferes with the administration of justice). A lawyer violates the Rule when his or her conduct: 1) is improper; 2) bears directly upon the judicial process with respect to an identifiable case or tribunal; and 3) taints the judicial process in more than a *de minimus* way. *In re Hopkins*, 677 A.2d 55, 60-61 (D.C. 1996).

Your failure to appear at the hearing before Judge Teel was improper, bore directly on L.W.'s bankruptcy petition, and caused the court to issue the Order to Show Cause with its attendant filings and expenditure of the court's time and resources.

In deciding to issue this letter of Informal Admonition rather than institute formal disciplinary charges against you, we have taken into consideration that you have cooperated with our investigation and that you have accepted responsibility for your misconduct by accepting this Informal Admonition. As a condition of this Informal Admonition, you agree within the next 90 days to take the Basic Training & Beyond two-day training offered by the D.C. Bar Practice Management Advisory Service. You will provide proof of completion of both days of training within ten days after completion of the course. In the event you do not complete the CLE within 90 days, this Informal Admonition will be considered null and void, and Disciplinary Counsel may initiate disciplinary proceedings against you.

If you would like to have a formal hearing, you must submit a written request for a hearing within 14 days of the date of this letter to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, with a copy to the Board on Professional Responsibility, unless Disciplinary Counsel grants an extension of time. If a hearing is requested, this Informal Admonition will be vacated and Disciplinary Counsel will institute formal charges pursuant to D.C. Bar R. XI, §§ 8(b) and (c). The case will then be assigned to a Hearing Committee, and a hearing will be scheduled by the Executive Attorney for the Board on Professional Responsibility pursuant to D.C. Bar R. XI, § 8(c). Such a hearing could result in a recommendation to dismiss the charges against you or a recommendation for a finding of

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culpability, in which case the sanction recommended by the Hearing Committee is not limited to an Informal Admonition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Hamilton P. Fox, III

Hamilton P. Fox, III  
Disciplinary Counsel

Encl.: Attachment to Letter of Informal Admonition

HPF:JUD:ip