

**ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND**

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNSEL AND DIRECTOR

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MARIANNE J. LEE
EXECUTIVE COUNSEL & DIRECTOR

August 24, 2022

VIA MAIL AND EMAIL (charles@tuckerlawgroupllp.com)

Charles T. Tucker Jr., Esquire
8181 Professional Place
Hyattsville, MD 20785

RE: BC Docket No. 2019-0950
Complainant: Emily C. Stoffel

BC Docket No. 2019-0643
Complainant: Michael Antonio Mason

BC Docket No. 2019-2004
Complainant: Christopher Edward Franks

BC Docket No. 2019-1697
Complainant: Christine M. Cooper

BC Docket No. 2020-0458
Complainant: Sylvester Lee

Dear Mr. Tucker:

The Attorney Grievance Commission approved the proposed Reprimand agreed upon by you and Bar Counsel and directed that this letter of Reprimand be administered to you.

Pursuant to Maryland Rule 19-716(c)(3)(A)(ix), the Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland hereby reprimands Charles T. Tucker, Jr., Respondent, for engaging in professional misconduct that violated Rules 19-301.2 (scope of representation), 19-301.3 (diligence), 19-301.4 (communication), 19-301.5(b) (fees), 19-301.7 (conflict of interest – general rule), and 19-301.16 (declining or terminating representation) of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct.

Representation of Emily C. Stoffel (2019-0950)

Between June 2018 and May 2019, the Respondent represented Emily C. Stoffel in connection with discrimination and harassment claims against her

employer. The Respondent failed to adequately explain the scope and terms of his retainer agreement in violation of Rules 19-301.2 and 19-301.5(b). The Respondent also failed to adequately communicate with Ms. Stoffel about the status of her case in further violation of Rule 19-301.4. When Ms. Stoffel terminated the representation, the Respondent failed to promptly provide Ms. Stoffel with an accounting of her funds in violation of Rule 19-301.16(d), although he did ultimately provide an accounting of Ms. Stoffel's funds.

Representation of Michael Antonio Mason (2019-0643)

Between April 2018 and April 2019, the Respondent represented Michael Antonio Mason in connection with discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims against two of his former employers. After a breakdown in the attorney-client relationship, Mr. Mason and the Respondent agreed to terminate the representation. At that time, the Respondent failed to promptly provide Mr. Mason with an accounting of his time and Mr. Mason's funds, although he subsequently did so. The Respondent also failed to promptly return the unused portion of the fees paid by Mr. Mason, although he did subsequently refund the disputed fees to Mr. Mason. The Respondent's conduct violated Rule 19-301.16(d).

Representation of Chris Edward Franks (2019-0950)

Between August 2017 and September 2019, the Respondent represented Chris Edward Franks in connection with a discrimination lawsuit against his former employer. During the litigation, the Respondent failed to adequately communicate with Mr. Franks about the status of his case and failed to promptly request Mr. Franks' medical records from his doctor in Kuwait in violation of Rule 19-301.3 and 19-301.4.

Representation of Christine M. Cooper (2019-1697)

Between June 2018 and July 2019, the Respondent represented Christine M. Cooper in connection with discrimination and retaliation claims against her employer. At the outset of the representation, the Respondent failed to adequately explain the scope of the representation and the terms of his retainer agreement in violation of Rules 19-301.2 and 19-301.5(b). The Respondent also failed to adequately communicate with Ms. Stoffel about the status of her claims in further violation of Rule 19-301.4.

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Representation of Sylvester Lee, Sr. (2020-0458)

In May 2017, Sylvester Lee, Sr., retained the Respondent to represent him in connection with two automobile accidents that he was involved in on May 6 and May 17, 2017. The Respondent also agreed to represent Mr. Lee's adult daughter, Latarsha Lee, who was a passenger in Mr. Lee's car at the time of the May 17, 2017 accident. The Respondent failed to advise Mr. Lee and his daughter that the representation created a conflict of interest, and he failed to obtain their informed consent, confirmed in writing, to the representation. In March 2018, the Respondent settled Mr. Lee's claim arising out of the May 17, 2017 accident with the tortfeasor's insurer for \$10,900.00. The Respondent's conduct violated Rules 19-301.4 and 19-301.7.

The Commission reprimands the Respondent for the aforementioned conduct.

The Maryland Rules provide that a reprimand constitutes discipline which is public and open to inspection. Bar Counsel will be providing a copy of this letter to the Complainants.

Sincerely,



Marianne J. Lee
Executive Counsel and Director

MJL/sg

cc: Stephan Y. Brennan, Esquire
Lana Hitchens, Esquire