



2 FILED

3 Nov 3, 2023

4 STATE BAR OF NEVADA

5 BY: *[Signature]*
6 OFFICE OF BAR COUNSEL

7 STATE BAR OF NEVADA

8 SOUTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

9 STATE BAR OF NEVADA,)

10 Complainant,)

11 vs.)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

12 CURTISS S. CHAMBERLAIN, ESQ.)

13 NV BAR NO. 11535)

14 Respondent.)

15 TO: Curtiss S. Chamberlain, Esq.
16 c/o Rob Bare, Esq. &
17 Glenn Machado, Esq.
18 150 Las Vegas Blvd., #1812
19 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

20 In 2014, you began representing Yasmin Parra (“Client”) in a personal injury matter.
21 In 2017, you signed a Medical Lien Contract, which notified you that Ultra Imaging had a
22 third-party interest in any proceeds from Client’s matter, following resolution of the
23 matter.

24 You then settled Client’s claim against the other party’s insurer for \$15,000. You
25 received \$15,000 on behalf of the Client and held those funds for later distribution.

1 Thereafter, you sought to obtain a settlement from Client's UIM policy. You did not inform
2 Ultra Imaging, Inc. ("Ultra") that you had received funds in which it had an interest.

3 In 2019, you began having medical issues that prevented you from being able to
4 finalize Client's matter. In late 2020, you contracted a severe case of COVID-19 which
5 exacerbated your other medical issues and further delayed the finalization of Client's
6 matter.

7 In June 2021, you merged your law practice with another lawyer's practice to form
8 a firm. You did this, in large part, because your medical issues were preventing you from
9 being able to adequately represent clients. Following the merger, you also had to spend
10 considerable time in Alaska attending a parent who required full-time care. In the merger,
11 the other lawyer was to take over outstanding cases except those that were already resolved
12 and simply waiting for distribution; you were to finalize the 'already resolved' matters with
13 the assistance of the staff.

14 In 2021, you continued to experience health issues that impaired your ability to
15 practice law. Although you continued to safekeep the Client's funds, you did not finalize
16 her matter in 2021.

17 In early 2022, Ultra attempted to contact you regarding settlement of Client's claim
18 and payment of its lien from settlement proceeds. Ultra never received a response from
19 you. Ultra then contacted Client directly and learned that her third-party claim had been
20 settled for years.

21 The State Bar alerted you to the outstanding lienholder interest when it requested
22 you respond to Ultra's grievance. By January 2023, you were able to resolve your medical
23 issues and had obtained all reductions from Client's lienholders and approval from Client
24 to distribute the settlement proceeds. In early 2023, you distributed all of Client's
25 settlement proceeds using the funds that you had been safekeeping for years.

1 Violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct

2 You had a duty, pursuant to RPC 1.3 (Diligence), to act with reasonable diligence
3 and promptness in representing your client. You negligently violated RPC 1.3 when you
4 failed to diligently pursue Client’s UIM claim and/or resolve her matter by distributing
5 settlement funds already received. Your failure is deemed negligent because it was
6 proximately caused by the symptoms from your COVID-19 illness and, then undiagnosed,
7 uncontrolled medical condition.

8 RPC 1.16 (Declining or Terminating Representation) also imposed a duty on you to
9 withdraw from a representation when your physical health impaired your ability to proceed
10 with the representation. You negligently violated RPC 1.16 by failing to terminate the
11 representation while you experienced disabling medical conditions.

12 These aforementioned violations could have significantly injured your client and her
13 lienholders.

14 Application of ABA Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions.

15 Standard 4.43 of the ABA Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions provides
16 “[r]eprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer is negligent and does not act with
17 reasonable diligence in representing a client, and causes injury of potential injury to a
18 client.” Thus, reprimand is the appropriate baseline sanction for your misconduct.

19 The Panel considered your substantial experience in the practice of law, your lack of
20 prior discipline, the absence of a selfish or dishonest motive, and your cooperation in the
21 disciplinary matter and your remorse, and found that they were not a basis to deviate from
22 the proscribed baseline sanction.


23 In light of the foregoing, you violated Rule of Professional Conduct (“RPC”) 1.3
24 (Diligence) and RPC 1.16 (Declining or Terminating Representation) and are hereby

1 PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED. You are also required to comply with the following
2 conditions for one year:

- 3 a. have no other discipline issued;
- 4 b. refrain from engaging in the solo practice of law; and
- 5 c. refrain from handling client funds or accessing any Client Trust Account.

6 You are also required to complete 13 Continuing Legal Education credits (including in 2
7 Ethics and 1 in Substance Abuse/Mental Health) in addition to your annual requirements.
8 Finally, you are required to pay SCR 120 Costs in the amount of \$1,941.25 no later than 30
9 days after the filing of the Order issuing this Public Reprimand.

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11 DATED this 31ST day of October, 2023.

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13 By: 
14 DAWN LOZANO, ESQ.
15 Formal Hearing Panel Chair
16 Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board
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1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 The undersigned hereby certifies a true and correct copy of the **PUBLIC**
3 **REPRIMAND** was electronically served upon:

- 4 1. Dawn Lozano, Esq. (Panel Chair): lozanolawlv@gmail.com
5 2. Rob Bare, Esq. (Respondent's Counsel): rob@robbarelaw.com
6 3. Glenn Machado, Esq. (Respondent's Counsel): glenmach@gmail.com
7 4. R. Kait Flocchini, Esq. (Assistant Bar Counsel): kaitf@nvbar.org

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9 DATED this 3rd day of November 2023.

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11 *Sonia Del Rio*

12 _____
13 Sonia Del Rio an employee of
14 the State Bar of Nevada.
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