

Case Nos.: SG13-0323, SG13-0520,

SG14-0667

STATE BAR OF NEVADA

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## SOUTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

	STATE BAR OF NEVADA,
	Complainant,
İ	vs.
	KENNETH G. FRIZZELL, III, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 6303, Respondent.
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## **PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

TO: KENNETH G. FRIZZELL, III, ESQ.,

This public reprimand is issued pursuant to a "Conditional Guilty Plea" you entered on April 7, 2016.

One of your clients (SG13-0323) was arrested for DUI and incarcerated at the Henderson Detention Center. The client's mother was contacted by an individual claiming to be you or a member of your office staff, and was advised that her son had been arrested and was in jail. The client's mother was told by this individual that he could arrange for her son to be bailed out of jail, and that you could represent the son on his case for \$1,500.00. You were then retained, and money was paid to you. One or more members of your staff advised the client's mother how to obtain a temporary driver's license and arrange bail for her son. You were not present for any of these events, and you did not speak with the client or his mother until after returning from an out-of-state trip. Your negligence in supervising your

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staff led to an improper intake procedure being followed here.

Another of your clients (SG13-0520) was arrested and incarcerated for DUI. You were retained while the client was still in custody. A few days after being released from jail, your client met with a nonlawyer assistant at your office. You were not present at this meeting. At this meeting, your nonlawyer assistant told the client that this would be a routine DUI case, despite the BAC of .385. In addition, the client was told by your nonlawyer assistant that the only time his license would be in jeopardy would be at a Department of Motor Vehicles hearing. Your client was not told by your nonlawyer assistant that a plea of guilty to DUI could entail a ninety-day suspension of his license. Nor was your client told that a plea of guilty to DUI could entail jail time. Your negligence in supervising and directing your staff led to incomplete and incorrect information being given to your client- some of it being information that should have come from you, the attorney.

In the third matter (SG14-0667), one of your nonlawyer assistants was the "citation manager" for "The Ticket Fixer," an entity that handled traffic matters. You had performed legal work under "The Ticket Fixer" entity. This nonlawyer assistant was responsible for most client intake and communication, operating and upkeeping the 'theticketfixer.com' website and registry, and all other business operations of 'theticketfixer.com' business except providing legal advice and service. You and this nonlawyer assistant were both signatories on a bank account opened specifically for "The Ticket Fixer" business. The management and ownership of "The Ticket Fixer" business, as well as interests in associated intellectual property and a website domain name, was later disputed in federal court between yourself, the same nonlawyer assistant, a client, and that client's mother. That case ended in a dismissal. Your negligence in supervision led to your nonlawyer assistant overstepping his appropriate bounds, and taking on more responsibility than he should in your business affairs.

These nonlawyer assistants were long-term trusted employees who acted outside the scope of their employment. But you had direct supervisory authority over them, and you did not make reasonable efforts to ensure that their conduct was compatible with your professional obligations. Rule of Professional Conduct ("RPC") 5.3(b). That is a violation of the Rules.

Pursuant to negotiation and your "Conditional Guilty Plea," in light of the foregoing, you negligently violated Rule of Professional Conduct ("RPC") 5.3 (Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants) in these three instances and are hereby PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED.

Dated this Z day of April, 2016.

JEFFREY S. POSIN, ESQ. Formal Hearing Panel Chair Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board