



July 14, 2023

LETTER OF REPRIMAND

Nicholas M. Wajda, Esq. ✉
Bar No. 11480
6167 Bristol Parkway, Suite 200
Culver City, CA 90230

Re: Grievance SBN22-00600/ Alana Patrick-Johnson

Dear Mr. Wajda:

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Las Vegas, NV 89102
phone 702.382.2200
toll free 800.254.2797
fax 702.385.2878

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On July 11, 2023, a Screening Panel of the Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board considered the above-referenced grievance. Based on the evidence presented, the Panel unanimously concluded that you violated the Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC") and should be issued a Letter of Reprimand. This letter shall constitute a delivery of that reprimand.

On December 13, 2022, the State Bar of Nevada (hereinafter "State Bar") received a grievance from A.P.J. regarding the Recovery Law Group (hereinafter "RLG"), where you are listed as the Managing Partner. RLG's website claims to have locations in over thirty (30) states. Depending on the jurisdiction, RLG also does business as Wajda & Associates and/or Wajda Law Group. On December 27, 2022, the State Bar sent you a Letter of Investigation ("LOI"). On January 10, 2023, you provided your response to the State Bar's LOI through counsel.

Based on your website, you have locations in close to thirty (30) states, not including Nevada. You, however, admitted that RLG is not registered with the State Bar of Nevada as a multijurisdictional practice ("MJP") even though RLG practices law in several jurisdictions. You also stated that RLG does not maintain a Nevada office and does not practice law in Nevada. However, that statement is belied by your website, Nevada Secretary of State records, and/or the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada records.

RPC 5.1 (Responsibilities of Partners, Managers, and Supervisory Lawyers) states, in pertinent part, that a lawyer "having direct supervisory authority over another lawyer shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the other lawyer conforms to the Rules of Professional Conduct." The Rule further explains that a lawyer "shall be responsible for another lawyer's violation" of the RPC if: (1) the lawyer "orders or, with knowledge of the specific conduct, ratifies the conduct involved"; or (2) the lawyer "is a partner or has comparable managerial authority in the law firm in which the other lawyer practices, or has direct supervisory authority over the other lawyer, and knows of the conduct at a time when its consequences can be avoided or mitigated but fails to take reasonable remedial action." You failed


to ensure that your office established policies and procedures to comply with the registration requirement of a multijurisdictional practice. This type of ethical breach caused potential injury to the public and/or the legal system.

RPC 7.5A (Registration of Multijurisdictional Law Firms) states, in pertinent part, that “[a]ll law firms having an office in Nevada and in one or more other jurisdictions shall register with the State Bar of Nevada and shall pay an annual fee of \$500 for such registration.” You failed to register your office as a multijurisdictional practice. This type of ethical breach caused potential injury to the public and/or the legal system.

RPC 8.4 (Misconduct) states that “[i]t is professional misconduct for a lawyer to: (a) violate or attempt to violate the RPC, knowingly assist or induce another to do so, or do so through the acts of another; (b) commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer’s honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects; (c) engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation; (d) engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice; (e) state or simply imply an ability to influence improperly a government agency or official or to achieve results by means that violate the RPC or other law; or (f) knowingly assist a judge or judicial officer in conduct that is a violation of applicable rules of judicial conduct or law.” You engaged in conduct involving dishonesty and/or misrepresentation when you discussed your law firm’s practices and locations with the State Bar. This type of ethical breach caused injury to your client, the public, and/or the profession.

Under ABA Standard 7.3, reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer negligently engages in conduct that is a violation of a duty owed as a professional, and causes injury or potential injury to a client, the public, or the legal system. Accordingly, you are hereby REPRIMANDED for violating RPC 5.1 (Responsibilities of Partners, Managers, and Supervisory Lawyers), RPC 7.5A (Registration of Multijurisdictional Law Firms), and RPC 8.4 (Misconduct). In addition, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 120, you are required to remit to the State Bar of Nevada the amount of \$1,500.00, plus the hard costs of these proceedings, **no later than 30 days** after receiving a billing from the State Bar. I trust that this reprimand will serve as a reminder to you of your ethical obligations, and that no such problems will arise in the future.

Sincerely,


D. Lozano (Jul 12, 2023 12:40 PDT)

Dawn Lozano, Esq.
Formal Hearing Panel Chair
Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board