



basis. You notified Mr. Williams of the dismissal, but failed to inform him that your neglect to file a brief caused the dismissal. You have acknowledged your failure to file a timely brief. Mr. Williams has indicated to Office of Disciplinary Counsel that he still wants you to pursue his matter, and has confirmed that you have appeared at all of his proceedings and have been responsive to his communications.

Ordinarily, the misconduct exhibited in this matter would not result in a Public Reprimand; however, you have a history of discipline consisting of three Informal Admonitions. In 2005, the misconduct involved your failure to timely pay restitution funds due and owing to a client in a criminal matter. In 2010, the misconduct involved your failure to timely file a PCRA petition or Turner/Finley "No Merit" letter; failure to keep your client apprised of the status of the matter and respond to inquiries, and misrepresentation of the status of the matter to Office of Disciplinary Counsel. In 2011, the misconduct involved your failure to diligently handle an estate matter that had time constraints. These prior warnings have not been successful in remediating your deficient conduct in representing clients, necessitating heightened discipline in response to the instant misconduct.

Your conduct in this matter has violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct:


1. RPC 1.1 – A lawyer shall provide competent representation to a client. Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation.

2. RPC 1.3 – A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.
3. RPC 1.4(a)(3) – A lawyer shall keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter.
4. RPC 1.5(b) – When the lawyer has not regularly represented the client, the basis or rate of the fee shall be communicated to the client, in writing, before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation.

Mr. McDanel, your conduct in this matter is now fully public. This Public Reprimand is a matter of public record.

As you stand before the Board today, we remind you that you have a continuing obligation to abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct and Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement. This Public Reprimand is proof that Pennsylvania lawyers will not be permitted to engage in conduct that falls below professional standards. Be mindful that any future dereliction will subject you to disciplinary action.


This Public Reprimand shall be posted on the Disciplinary Board's website at [www.padisiplinaryboard.org](http://www.padisiplinaryboard.org).

  
Designated Member  
The Disciplinary Board of the  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on December 14, 2015.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The undersigned, Respondent in the above proceeding, herewith acknowledges that the above Public Reprimand was administered in his presence and in the presence of the designated panel of The Disciplinary Board at the District I Office located at 1601 Market Street, Suite 3320, Philadelphia, PA on December 14, 2015.

  
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John McDanel