

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL : No. 204 DB 2018
Petitioner :
v. : Attorney Registration No. 95122
MARK FRANCIS HOULDIN :
Respondent : (Philadelphia)

ORDER


AND NOW, this 25th day of July, 2019, in accordance with Rule 215(g), Pa.R.D.E., the three-member Panel of the Disciplinary Board having reviewed and approved the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent filed in the above captioned matter; it is

ORDERED that the said MARK FRANCIS HOULDIN be subjected to a **PUBLIC REPRIMAND** by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as provided in Rule 204(a) and Rule 205(c)(9) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

BY THE BOARD:


Board Chair

TRUE COPY FROM RECORD
Attest:


Marcee D. Sloan
Board Prothonotary
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

**BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL	:	No. 204 DB 2018
Petitioner	:	
	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	Attorney Registration No. 95122
MARK FRANCIS HOULDIN	:	
Respondent	:	(Philadelphia)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Mark Francis Houldin, you stand before the Disciplinary Board, your professional peers and members of the public for the imposition of a Public Reprimand. It is an unpleasant task to publicly reprimand one who has been granted the privilege of membership in the bar of this Commonwealth. Yet as repugnant as this task may be, it has been deemed necessary that you receive this public discipline.

Mr. Houldin, the record demonstrates that you were admitted to the practice of law in 2008. For the 2015-2016 registration year, you failed to file your annual attorney registration form and pay the annual assessment and late payment penalties by August 31, 2015. Thereafter, you were placed on administrative suspension by Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, effective October 21, 2015. You received notice of your administrative suspension and were aware that you were not permitted to practice law. However, in violation of the Court's Order, you continued to engage in the practice of law during the time frames of October 2015 through December 2015 and March 2016 through April 2016 by representing dozens of juveniles in various hearings held in Philadelphia Family Court, in your capacity as a staff attorney with the Philadelphia Defender Association. At no time during the period that you represented these juvenile

clients did you advise your clients, the judges or opposing counsel that you were administratively suspended and not authorized to practice law.

In April 2016 you were elevated to the position of Director of Policy at the Defender Association, a position which did not require an active law license. You were reinstated to active status on September 27, 2017.

As a result of your conduct, you have violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC") and Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement ("Pa.R.D.E."):

1. RPC 5.5(a) – A lawyer shall not practice law in a jurisdiction in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in that jurisdiction, or assist another in doing so.
2. RPC 8.4(d) – It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.
3. Pa.R.D.E. 203(b)(3) – Willful violation of any other provision of the Enforcement Rules shall be grounds for discipline, *via*:
 - a. Pa.R.D.E. 217(b) – A formerly admitted attorney shall promptly notify...all clients who are involved in pending litigation or administrative proceedings, and the attorney or attorneys for each adverse party in such matter or proceeding, of the ...administrative suspension...and consequent inability of the formerly admitted attorney to act as an attorney after the effective date of the ...administrative suspension.
 - b. Pa.R.D.E. 217(c)(2) – A formerly admitted attorney shall promptly notify...of the ...administrative suspension....all other persons with

whom the formerly admitted attorney may at any time expect to have professional contacts under circumstances where there is a reasonable probability that they may infer that he or she continues as an attorney in good standing.

- c. Pa.R.D.E. 217(e)(1) – Within ten days after the effective date of the ...administrative suspension...the formerly admitted attorney shall file with the Board a verified statement and serve a copy on Disciplinary Counsel.
- d. Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(3) – A formerly admitted attorney may have direct communication with a client or third party regarding a matter being handled by the attorney...only if the communication is limited to ministerial matters...The formerly admitted attorney shall clearly indicate in any such communication that he or she is a legal assistant and identify the supervising attorney.
- e. Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(iv), (v), (vi), (vii), and (ix) - Under these provisions, a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from engaging in certain law-related activities.

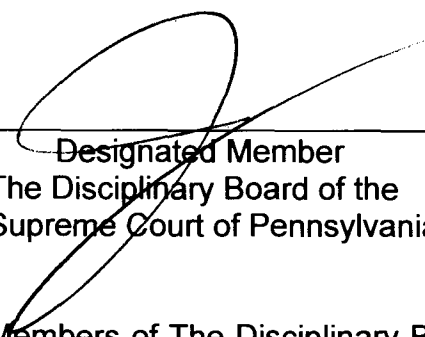
It is my duty to reprimand you for your misconduct. We note that you have no history of discipline since your admission to practice law in 2008. We note that mitigating factors exist, including your remorse and recognition of your misconduct, the fact that you self-reported your misconduct, your cooperation with Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and health issues which impacted your practice.

Please be aware that any subsequent violations on your part can only result in further discipline and perhaps more severe sanctions. We sincerely hope that you will conduct yourself in such a manner that future disciplinary action will be unnecessary.

Mr. Houldin, 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.padisciplinaryboard.org

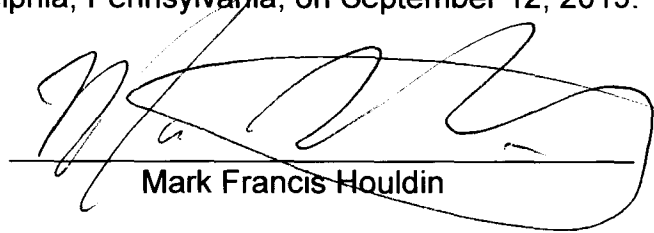


Designated Member
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on September 12, 2019.

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 Board offices located at the 1601 Market Street, Suite 3320, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on September 12, 2019.



Mark Francis Houldin

Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

2. Respondent, Mark Francis Houldin, was born in 1980, was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth on June 11, 2008, lists a public access address at 103 Camelot Lane, Newtown Square, Pennsylvania 19073-4412, and is subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court.

3. Pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 201(a)(1), Respondent is subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

4. On February 14, 2019, Petitioner filed a Petition for Discipline against Respondent with the Disciplinary Board Prothonotary ("the Prothonotary").

5. On March 27, 2019, Respondent, through his counsel, filed an Answer to the Petition for Discipline with the Prothonotary.

SPECIFIC FACTUAL ADMISSIONS AND
RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT VIOLATED

6. Respondent stipulates that the factual allegations set forth below are true and correct and that he violated the charged Rules of Professional Conduct and Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement as set forth herein.

CHARGE

7. Since June 11, 2008, Respondent has been admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

8. Pa.R.D.E. 219(a) requires that every attorney admitted in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall pay an annual assessment and file the appropriate annual fee form by July 1 of each year.

9. Pa.R.D.E. 219(f) provides that the failure of an attorney to complete the annual registration by August 31 "shall be deemed a request to be administratively suspended."

10. Respondent failed to pay the annual assessment and late payment penalties, and to file the annual fee form, by August 31, 2015.

11. By Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania dated September 21, 2015, effective October 21, 2015 ("the Order"), Respondent was placed on administrative suspension pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 219(d) for having failed to complete the annual registration requirements.

12. By letter dated September 21, 2015, sent to Respondent by certified mail, return receipt requested, Suzanne E. Price, Attorney Registrar:

- a. enclosed a copy of the Order and the relevant page containing Respondent's name;

- b. advised Respondent that he was to be administratively suspended effective October 21, 2015, for having failed to comply with Pa.R.D.E. 219;
- c. enclosed an Attorney Registration Form;
- d. advised Respondent that the Attorney Registration Form must be received on or before October 21, 2015;
- e. enclosed the Standard Guidance of the Disciplinary Board to Lawyers who have been Administratively Suspended;
- f. enclosed Pa.R.D.E. 217 and Pa.R.D.E. 219;
- g. enclosed Form DB-23(a), Nonlitigation Notice of Administrative Suspension;
- h. enclosed Form DB-24(a), Litigation Notice of Administrative Suspension;
- i. enclosed Form DB-25(a), Statement of Compliance; and
- j. advised that Respondent was required to comply with the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

13. On September 24, 2015, Ms. Arlene Houldin signed for this letter.

14. Respondent received this letter.

15. Respondent violated Pa.R.D.E. 217(e)(1) by failing to file a verified Statement of Compliance (Form DB-25(a)) with the Disciplinary Board Secretary within ten days following the effective date of Respondent's administrative suspension.

16. When the Order was issued, Respondent was employed as a staff attorney at the Defender Association of Philadelphia ("the Defender Association") and was assigned to work in Philadelphia Family Court representing juveniles.

17. As a staff attorney assigned to work in Philadelphia Family Court, Respondent represented juveniles in the following types of hearings: adjudicatory hearings; violation of probation hearings; review hearings; and detention hearings.

18. While Respondent was administratively suspended, he engaged in the unauthorized practice of law by continuing to represent dozens of juveniles in various hearings held in Philadelphia Family Court, in his capacity as a staff attorney with the Defender Association.

19. During the period Respondent was administratively suspended, Respondent represented juveniles in Philadelphia Family Court during the following time frames: October 21,

2015 through December 30, 2015; and March 7, 2016 through April 15, 2016.

20. During his representation of juvenile clients during those time frames, Respondent:

- a. held himself out as eligible to practice law;
- b. had contact with clients in person;
- c. rendered legal consultation and advice to his clients; and
- d. negotiated with prosecutors, and transacted matters before judges, on behalf of his clients.

21. At no time during the period that Respondent represented juvenile clients while Respondent was administratively suspended did Respondent advise:

- a. the juvenile clients that he was administratively suspended and he could not represent them;
- b. the judges before whom he appeared that he was administratively suspended; and
- c. opposing counsel that he was administratively suspended.

22. On April 18, 2016, Respondent was elevated to the position of Director of Policy at the Defender Association.

23. The position of Director of Policy does not require Respondent to have an active license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

24. On September 27, 2017, Respondent was reinstated to active status.

25. Respondent, by his conduct as alleged in paragraphs 7 through 24 above, Respondent violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct and Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement:

- a. RPC 5.5(a), which states that a lawyer shall not practice law in a jurisdiction in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in that jurisdiction, or assist another in doing so;
- b. RPC 8.4(d), which states that it is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice; and
- c. Pa.R.D.E. 203(b)(3), which states that a wilful violation of any other provision of the Enforcement Rules shall be grounds for discipline, via:

(1) Pa.R.D.E. 217(b), which states that a formerly admitted attorney shall promptly notify, or cause to be notified, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, all clients who are involved in pending litigation or administrative proceedings, and the attorney or attorneys for each adverse party in such matter or proceeding, of the disbarment, suspension, administrative suspension or transfer to inactive status and consequent inability of the formerly admitted attorney to act as an attorney after the effective date of the disbarment, suspension, administrative suspension or transfer to inactive status. The notice to be given to the client shall advise the prompt substitution of another attorney or attorneys in place of the formerly admitted attorney. In the event the client does not obtain substitute counsel before the effective date of the disbarment, suspension, administrative suspension or transfer to inactive status, it shall be the responsibility of the formerly admitted attorney to move in the court or agency in which the proceeding is pending for leave to withdraw. The notice to be given to the attorney or attorneys for an adverse party shall state the place of residence of the client of the formerly admitted attorney. The notice required by this subdivision (b) may be delivered by the most efficient method possible as long as the chosen method is successful and provides proof of receipt;

(2) Pa.R.D.E. 217(c)(2), which states that a formerly admitted attorney shall promptly notify, or cause to be promptly notified, of the disbarment, suspension, administrative suspension or transfer to inactive status all other persons with whom the formerly admitted attorney may

at any time expect to have professional contacts under circumstances where there is a reasonable probability that they may infer that he or she continues as an attorney in good standing. The notice required by this subdivision (c) may be delivered by the most efficient method possible as long as the chosen method is successful and provides proof of receipt;

- (3) Pa.R.D.E. 217(e)(1), which states that within ten days after the effective date of the disbarment, suspension, administrative suspension or transfer to inactive status order, the formerly admitted attorney shall file with the Secretary of the Board a verified statement and serve a copy on Disciplinary Counsel;
- (4) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(3), which states that a formerly admitted attorney may have direct communication with a client or third party regarding a matter being handled by the attorney, organization or firm for which the formerly admitted attorney works only if the communication is limited to ministerial matters such as scheduling, billing, updates, confirmation of receipt or sending of correspondence and messages. The formerly admitted attorney shall clearly indicate in any such communication that he or she is a legal assistant and identify the supervising attorney;
- (5) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(iv), which states that a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from representing himself or herself as a lawyer or person of similar status;
- (6) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(v), which states that a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from having any

contact with clients either in person, by telephone, or in writing, except as provided in paragraph (3);

- (7) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(vi), which states that a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from rendering legal consultation or advice to a client;
- (8) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(vii), which states that a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from appearing on behalf of a client in any hearing or proceeding or before any judicial officer, arbitrator, mediator, court, public agency, referee, magistrate, hearing officer or any other adjudicative person or body; and
- (9) Pa.R.D.E. 217(j)(4)(ix), which states that a formerly admitted attorney is specifically prohibited from negotiating or transacting any matter for or on behalf of a client with third parties or having any contact with third parties regarding such a negotiation or transaction.

SPECIFIC JOINT RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE

26. Petitioner and Respondent jointly recommend that the appropriate discipline for Respondent's admitted misconduct is a public reprimand.

27. Respondent hereby consents to that discipline being imposed upon him by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Attached to this Petition is Respondent's executed Affidavit required by Rule 215(d), Pa.R.D.E., stating that he consents to the recommended discipline, including the mandatory

acknowledgements contained in Rule 215(d)(1) through (4), Pa.R.D.E.

28. In support of Petitioner and Respondent's joint recommendation, it is respectfully submitted that there are several weighty mitigating circumstances, as set forth below:

- a. Respondent was diagnosed with depression; attached is a March 9, 2018 letter from Respondent's psychiatrist, that discusses Respondent's diagnosis and states that Respondent is fully recovered (Attachment A);
- b. Petitioner has concluded that at a disciplinary hearing, Respondent would establish that there is a causal connection between his misconduct and his depressive episode so as to constitute mitigation under ***Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Braun***, 553 A.2d 894 (Pa. 1989);
- c. Respondent no longer requires mental health treatment for depression and meets with a licensed clinical social worker, as needed, as reflected in the attached June 21, 2019 letter (Attachment B);

- d. Respondent has admitted engaging in misconduct and violating the charged Rules of Professional Conduct and Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement;
- e. Respondent has cooperated with Petitioner, as is evidenced by Respondent's admissions herein and his consent to receiving a public reprimand;
- f. Respondent is remorseful for his misconduct and understands he should be disciplined, as is evidenced by his consent to receive a public reprimand;
- g. Respondent has no record of discipline in the Commonwealth; and
- h. Respondent self-reported his misconduct to Petitioner.

29. Respondent, through his attorneys, desires to bring to the attention of the three-member panel of the Disciplinary Board that if the within disciplinary matter had proceeded to a disciplinary hearing, Respondent would have: testified that although he received the mailing that contained Ms. Price's September 21, 2015 letter stating that he had been administratively suspended, he had not opened that envelope

and reviewed Ms. Price's letter because he was suffering from depression and not properly attending to his personal and professional obligations during that time period; testified that his legal career has been devoted to the cause of criminal justice reform, as shown by his resumé (Attachment C); and presented character evidence.

30. The disciplinary cases discussed below involved situations where attorneys engaged in the unauthorized practice of law for only a few months and were publicly reprimanded.

In *Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Brian Scott Quinn*, No. 111 DB 2016 (D.Bd. Order 8/3/16) (Public Reprimand administered 1/5/17), Respondent Quinn engaged in the unauthorized practice of law for approximately four and one-half months. During that period, Respondent Quinn continued in his employment as an associate at a law firm and met with clients, spoke with opposing counsel, settled cases, and attended hearings and depositions. Respondent Quinn had misrepresented to his employer the date upon which Respondent Quinn had discovered that he had been placed on administrative suspension. Respondent Quinn had no record of discipline and self-reported his misconduct.

In **Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Andrew S. Rosenbloom**, No. 214 DB 2015 (D.Bd. Order 1/19/17) (Public Reprimand administered 4/5/17), Respondent Rosenbloom had engaged in the unauthorized practice of law for a little over two months. During that time frame, he was the attorney of record in nine matters and he filed pleadings, appeared at pretrial conferences, settled cases, and corresponded with opposing counsel and the courts. Respondent Rosenbloom admitted his misconduct and stated that the misconduct was not willful or intentional. Respondent Rosenbloom explained that he had experienced stress in his professional and personal life that caused him to be overwhelmed and contributed to his failure to comply with CLE requirements; he also claimed that he was unaware that he had been administratively suspended. Respondent Rosenbloom had no record of discipline.

In **Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Roger V. Ashodian**, No. 178 DB 2016 (D.Bd. Order 11/18/16) (Public Reprimand administered 1/4/17), Respondent Ashodian had, *inter alia*, engaged in the unauthorized practice of law for just under two months. No detailed information was listed in the Public Reprimand regarding the scope of the activities that constituted the unauthorized practice of law. Respondent

Ashodian also neglected to negotiate a reduction in a client's medical bills, and failed to: promptly return to the client funds that the client was entitled to receive; provide the client with an accounting; and answer the client's inquiries. Respondent Ashodian had no record of discipline.

31. After considering the unique factual circumstances surrounding Respondent's misconduct, the precedent involving attorneys who were administered public reprimands for having engaged in the unauthorized practice of law, and the weighty mitigating factors, Petitioner and Respondent submit that a public reprimand is appropriate discipline for Respondent's misconduct.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner and Respondent respectfully request that:

- a. Pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 215(e) and 215(g)(1), the three-member panel of the Disciplinary Board review and approve the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent and enter an Order that Respondent receive a public reprimand; and
- b. Pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 215(i), the three-member panel of the Disciplinary Board enter an order for Respondent to pay the necessary expenses

incurred in the investigation and prosecution of this matter, and that under Pa.R.D.E. 208(g)(1) all expenses be paid by Respondent within 30 days of entry of the order taxing the expenses against the respondent-attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

PAUL J. KILLION
CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

July 11, 2019
Date

By [Signature]
Richard Hernandez
Disciplinary Counsel

7/9/19
Date

By [Signature]
Mark Francis Houldin, Esquire
Respondent

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
NOTARIAL SEAL
FERIEDON ESKANDARY, Notary Public
City of Philadelphia, Phila. County
My Commission Expires March 8, 2020

7/11/19
Date

By [Signature]
Ellen C. Brotman, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent

7/11/19
Date

By [Signature]
Ronald L. Greenblatt, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent

ATTACHMENT A
UNAVAILABLE -
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT

ATTACHMENT B
UNAVAILABLE -
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT

ATTACHMENT C

MARK F. HOULDIN
410 Memphis Street • Philadelphia, PA 19125
(610) 316-5531 • Markhouldin@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

Defender Association of Philadelphia
Policy Director

2016-Present

- Lead strategical planning and implementation of policy change to reduce mass incarceration, protect the rights of those accused, reduce racial disparities, and promote a fair and smart justice system
- Serve as liaison with grassroots organizing groups and local and national policy organizations to bring best practices in justice reform to Philadelphia.
- For over two years, serve as Defender's representative on Philadelphia's core planning team for MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge Grant, resulting in Philadelphia receiving the largest award of any jurisdiction:
 - Assisted in writing initial proposal, and developing strategies for significantly reducing the city's local jail population and reducing racial disparities.
 - Successfully advocated for over \$500,000 of the on 3.5 million dollar grant awarded to city to be given to the Defender Association for specific initiatives to reduce the jail population and address individual needs.
 - Proposed, developed and oversaw initiative to provide representation at initial bail appearances for the first time in Philadelphia in over two decades. Designed research protocol in collaboration with the Quattrone Center at University of Pennsylvania to empirically analyze impact of pre-trial representation.
- Critically analyze risk assessments and advocate locally, statewide, and nationally to limit or prevent the use of actuarial instruments in the courtroom.
- Oversee the use of data and research to conduct policy analysis, analyze trends in incarceration, evaluate current practice, and improve quality of representation.
- Prepare and author comments to proposed legislation and changes to Pennsylvania Rules of Court Procedure.
- Lead community engagement efforts to identify ways to incorporate the voice of those directly impacted into practice, such as: creating social biography videos to humanize our clients; developing a client Bill of Rights created by people with records; and the creation of new methods for clients to give their lawyers more complete information about themselves.
- Direct efforts to bring Participatory Defense to Philadelphia, through strategic partnerships and securing funding for the creation of a community partnership coordinator to oversee the development of a Family Justice Hub(s).
- Collaborated with local organizers to plan and execute Mama's Bail Out Day, raising over \$56,000 to bail out 13 women before Mother's Day, leading to the creation of the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund.
- Created Data Analyst position in Policy Unit to use empirical data to inform internal and external policy issues.
- Restructured clinical legal education programs to use them more strategically to address gaps in practice and highlight policy issues that need to be

addressed, such as the impact of prior victimization and trauma on those accused of a new crime.

- Supervise work of Youth Justice Policy Analyst, Communications Specialist, Data Analyst, and Community Partnership Coordinator

Assistant Defender

2014-2015

2008-2012

- Represented individuals charged with felonies and misdemeanors through all stages of criminal and juvenile proceedings.
- Created and managed a post-dispositional motions database to track advocacy efforts and improve the quality of motions practice.
- Coordinated litigation of juvenile post-trial motions and appeals.
- Assisted in creating statewide training tools and provided legal assistance to defenders.

Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth
Legal Representation Specialist

Feb. 2014-July 2014

Washington, D.C.

- Served as lead on temporary project to improve legal practitioner compliance with the Supreme Court's juvenile life without parole decision in *Miller v. Alabama*.
- Created practice guides and resource materials for legal practitioners handling cases of youth in adult court.
- Identified and researched novel legal questions to support national litigation efforts and coordinated pro bono research projects with law firms.
- Provided guidance to jurisdictions planning trainings for attorneys on *Miller* related issues.

National Legal Aid & Defender Association
Defender Counsel

2012-2014

Washington, D.C.

- Served as government affairs liaison for criminal justice issues by working with Congressional staff and conducting meetings with senior Department of Justice officials.
- Spearheaded campaign to reorient the national conversation on the right to counsel through focus on community oriented defense and holistic representation.
- Developed and secured funding for national research initiative on creation of client bill of rights to hold defender offices accountable to client communities.
- Secured Bureau of Justice Assistance grant funding for first national empirical study to measure effectiveness of defender offices in compliance with national quality standards.
- Assisted in design, data collection, and development of Gideonat50.org, the first comprehensive interactive national map of public defense services and funding.
- Provided direct technical assistance to defender offices to create new programs, improve quality of representation, and solicit additional resources.
- Collaborated with Department of Justice's Access to Justice Office and National Criminal Justice Association for a national webinar to train defenders

- on accessing federal grant funding.
- Authored policy statements on behalf of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA) and served as primary substantive press contact for 50th Anniversary of *Gideon v. Wainwright*.

EDUCATION

- Temple University Beasley School of Law: Philadelphia, PA,**
Juris Doctor May 2006
- American University, School of Public Affairs, Washington, DC,**
Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice May 2002

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Invited Commentary: *Stepping Back to Move Forward: Recognizing Fallibility and Interdependency*, Mending Justice: Sentinel Events Reviews. National Institute of Justice, Special Report. September 8, 2014, at 30-31.

Wilbur v. City of Mount Vernon: A Five-Point National Roadmap for Addressing Systemic Violations of the Sixth Amendment. Cornerstone, National Legal Aid & Defender Association, Volume 34, Number 2. January – March 2014, at 10.

The Socio-Legal Community Navigator: Client-Focused Solutions to Bridging Civil and Defender Services. Special Feature: Public Defense / Civil Legal Aid: Delivering on Justice. Management Information Exchange Journal, Volume 28, Issue 3. Fall 2013. Co-Author.

Establishing the Constitutional Right to Counsel for Teens in Child Welfare Matters and Assuring a Meaningful Right to Counsel in Delinquency Matters: The Legal Significance of Adolescent Development. Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, 47 Harv. C.R.-C.L. L. Rev. 529 (2012). Co-Author.

The Pennsylvania Juvenile Defense Notebook, Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network of Pennsylvania & MacArthur Models for Change (2011). Contributing Author.

Pennsylvania Juvenile Collateral Consequences Checklist, Pennsylvania Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (May 2010). Contributing Author/ Editor.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Bringing Families and Communities into Court: Participatory Defense in Philadelphia. Philadelphia FIGHT Institute for Community Justice: Beyond the Walls Prison Healthcare and Reentry Summit, June 28, 2017.

Responding to the Concerns of Black Lives Matter: Criminal Justice Reform Efforts in Philadelphia. Community College of Philadelphia Law and Society Week. March 2, 2017.

Community Participation in the Criminal Justice Process. Drexel University School of Law: Crime, Community, and Public Health Symposium. October 16, 2015.

The Role of Stress in Violence, Co-Presenter. American Bar Association & American Psychological Association National Conference, Confronting Family and Community Violence: The Intersection of Law and Psychology. May 3, 2014.

Establishing a Client Bill of Rights, Session Coordinator and Co-Presenter. National Legal Aid & Defender Association, 2013 Annual Conference. November 7, 2013.

Race, Poverty, and Public Defense, Panelist. Tulane School of Law, Indigent Defense Reform: A History in New Orleans, Louisiana & Nationally. September 06, 2013.

50 Years Later, the State of Indigent Defense, Panelist. Community-Oriented Defender Network, New York University School of Law. July 26, 2013.

Effective Strategies in the Wake of Miller & Jackson: The Role of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists, Session Coordinator and Moderator. National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists Conference. March 22, 2013.

Answering Gideon's Call Outside the Courtroom: Policy Reform Strategies to Protect the Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel, Conference Co-Developer, Presenter. NLADA, American University School of Public Affairs & Washington College of Law. March 18, 2013.

SELECTED INVITED LECTURES

Temple University, School of Criminal Justice, Professor Jamie Fader. Course: *Introduction to Juvenile Justice*; Topic: *Due Process in Juvenile Court*. September 16, 2015.

Temple University Beasley School of Law, Professor Marsha Levick. Course: *Juvenile Justice*; Topic: *Practical Application to Juvenile Court Practice of Supreme Court Decisions in Roper, Graham and J.D.B.* March 21, 2012.

University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Professor Sangeeta Prassaad, *Law and Social Entrepreneurship*. January 7, 2013.

Villanova University School of Law, Professor Lewis Becker. Course:

Family Law; Topic: *Overview of the Juvenile Justice System and Current National Issues and Trends*. February 1, 2011.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, Executive Committee, Philadelphia Bar Association. Jan 2018-present.

Co-Chair, Legislative Committee, *Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers*. 2016-present.

Founding Board Member, *Indigent Defense Research Association*, 2017-present.

Expert Panelist, Survey of Public Defenders Design Study, *Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Association for Public Defense*, 2016-Present

Featured Speaker/Invited Guest, What Does Fairness Look Like? A Conversation on Race, Risk Assessment Tools, and Pretrial Justice” *American Civil Liberties Union & NYU Law Center on Race and Equity*, November 16th-17th, 2017.

Invited Participant, *Quality Legal Representation: Definition, Measurement, Theory and Practice*, Invited Participant. National Science Foundation and State University of New York at Albany. October 29-30, 2015.

Member, *American Bar Association Commission on Youth at Risk*. 2012-2015

Member, Board of Directors, *Mentoring Today*, Washington, DC. 2012-2015

Expert Witness, Philadelphia City Counsel Hearing: *Contracting for Provision of Conflict Counsel*. October 9, 2013.

Blue Ribbon Panelist, *Reforming Byrne-JAG Performance Measures*, Brennan Center for Justice. October 8, 2013.

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA


OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, :
Petitioner :
: No. 204 DB 2018
v. :
: Atty. Reg. No. 95122
MARK FRANCIS HOULDIN, :
Respondent : (Philadelphia)

VERIFICATION

The statements contained in the foregoing Joint Petition
In Support Of Discipline On Consent Under Pa.R.D.E. 215(d)
are true and correct to the best of our knowledge or
information and belief and are made subject to the penalties
of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to
authorities.

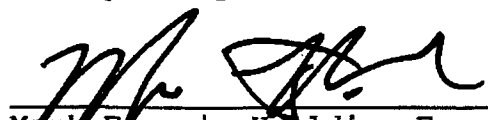
July 11, 2019
Date

By


Richard Hernandez
Disciplinary Counsel

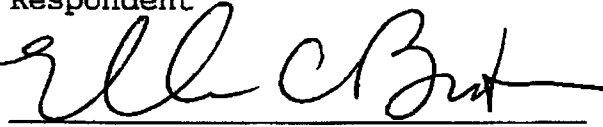
7/10/19
Date

By


Mark Francis Houldin, Esquire
Respondent


7/11/19
Date

By


Ellen C. Brotman, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent

7/11/19
Date

By


Ronald L. Greenblatt, Esquire
Counsel for Respondent

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, :
Petitioner :
: No. 204 DB 2018
v. :
: Atty. Reg. No. 95122
MARK FRANCIS HOULDIN, :
Respondent : (Philadelphia)

AFFIDAVIT UNDER RULE 215(d), Pa.R.D.E.

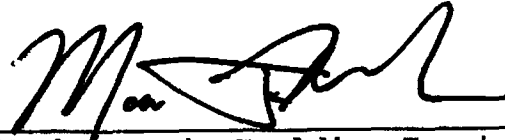
Respondent, Mark Francis Houldin, hereby states that he consents to the imposition of a public reprimand as jointly recommended by Petitioner, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and Respondent in the Joint Petition In Support Of Discipline On Consent, and further states that:

1. His consent is freely and voluntarily rendered; he is not being subjected to coercion or duress; he is fully aware of the implications of submitting the consent; and he has consulted with Ellen C. Brotman, Esquire, and Ronald L. Greenblatt, Esquire, in connection with the decision to consent to discipline;

2. He is aware that there is presently pending a disciplinary proceeding at 204 DB 2018 involving allegations that he has been guilty of misconduct as set forth in the Joint Petition;

3. He acknowledges that the material facts set forth in the Joint Petition are true; and

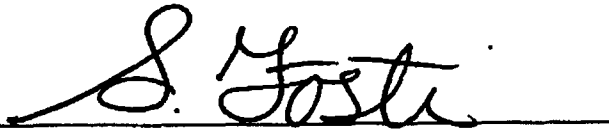
4. He consents because he knows that if the charges pending at No. 204 DB 2018 continued to be prosecuted, he could not successfully defend against them.



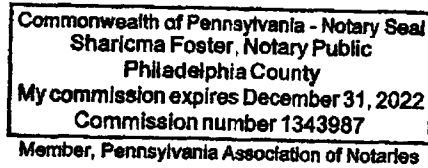
Mark Francis Houldin, Esquire
Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed

before me this 10TH
day of July, 2019.



Notary Public



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Submitted by: Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Signature:  _____

Name: Richard Hernandez, Disciplinary Counsel

Attorney No. (if applicable): 57254