

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

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL	:	No. 41 DB 2013
Petitioner	:	
	:	File No. C4-12-185
v.	:	
	:	Attorney Registration No. 44827
LAWRENCE E. BOLIND, JR.	:	
Respondent	:	(Allegheny County)

**PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

Lawrence E. Bolind, Jr., 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. Bolind, you are being reprimanded today for your conduct in the following matter:

On June 8, 2009, Josephine Kress Bowen died testate in Allegheny County. Letters testamentary were issued in the Estate in June 2008. Subsequently, you had various conversations with the heirs, Joe Brad Bowen and Charles Lane Bowen, and attempted to obtain their signatures on a Family Settlement Agreement. The heirs did not agree to sign a Family Settlement Agreement. They requested numerous documents concerning the Estate, including the amount of charges and fees levied against the Estate, as well as your billing records. You did not provide this information. It was not until the heirs, who reside in Texas, obtained Pennsylvania counsel in December 2009 that you began to move matters forward.

UED

Although you had provided a "draft" Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return for Decedent to the heirs, you had not filed the final return. Your explanation for not taking prompt action was your position that the heirs' refused to sign a Family Settlement Agreement or respond to same, so you were not going to file the tax return until they did so. The Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return was filed on December 29, 2009. Your failure to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in filing the tax return violated RPC 1.3.

You continued to delay the Estate proceedings by refusing to promptly distribute entrusted funds as directed by the court, and refusing to reissue a check which was lost by the heirs' counsel in the mail. The heirs were forced to go to court to require that you pay out the distribution owed to them and then had to go back to court to require the reissuance of the lost check. Your failure to promptly deliver to the heirs their distribution violated RPC 1.15(e).

Your ongoing recalcitrance and refusal to move the estate along prejudiced the administration of justice, in violation of RPC 8.4(d). It became necessary for the heirs to retain counsel in order to require you to do your job in the administration of the Estate. The heirs were forced to file numerous motions and petitions with the court on various issues including the amount of fees you charged, the issuance of checks, the filing of an accounting and inheritance tax return, and the aforementioned reissue of a lost check. All of these filings were solely caused by your refusal to move matters forward.

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

1. RPC 1.3 – A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.
2. RPC 1.15(e) – Except as stated in this Rule or otherwise permitted by law or by agreement with the client or third person, a lawyer shall promptly deliver to the client or third person any property, including but not limited to Rule 1.15 Funds, that the client or third person is entitled to receive and, upon request by the client or third person shall promptly render a full accounting regarding the property; Provided, however, that the delivery, accounting and disclosure of Fiduciary Funds or property shall continue to be governed by the law, procedure and rules governing the requirements of Fiduciary administration, confidentiality, notice and accounting applicable to the Fiduciary entrustment.
3. RPC 8.4(d) – It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

We note that you have practiced law in Pennsylvania since 1985. You received an Informal Admonition in 2009 and recently received a Private Reprimand. Please be aware that any subsequent violations of the ethical rules can only result in further discipline and perhaps more severe sanctions than that imposed today.

Mr. Bolind, 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).

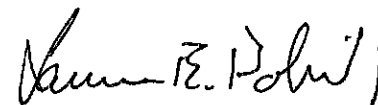


Designated Member  
The Disciplinary Board of the  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 2, 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 District IV Office, Frick Building, Suite 1300, 437 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 2, 2015.



Lawrence E. Bolind, Jr.