

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

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,
Petitioner

v.

MICHAEL BRUCE GOODMAN,

Respondent

: No. 46 DB 2025
:
: File Nos. C2-23-849 & C2-24-909
:
: Attorney Registration No. 55985
:
: (Montgomery County)

O R D E R

AND NOW, this 13th day of May 2025, in accordance with Rule 208(a)(5), Pa.R.D.E., the determination by a Review Panel of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in the above captioned matter is accepted; and it is

ORDERED that the said MICHAEL BRUCE GOODMAN of Montgomery County, be subjected to a **PUBLIC REPRIMAND WITH CONDITION** by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as provided in Rule 204(b) and Rule 205(c)(8) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the Prothonotary of the Board and Disciplinary Counsel proof that he has:

1. Refunded \$1,050.00 to Samantha M. Hoban.

Failure to comply with the above Condition shall be grounds for reconsideration of this matter and prosecution of formal charges against Respondent under the specific provision of Enforcement Rule 204(b). Costs shall be paid by the Respondent.

BY THE BOARD:



Board Chair

TRUE COPY FROM RECORD
Attest:



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

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OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,	:	No. 46 DB 2025
Petitioner	:	
	:	File Nos. C4-23-849 & C2-24-909
	:	
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	:	Attorney Registration No. 55985
MICHAEL BRUCE GOODMAN,	:	
Respondent	:	(Montgomery County)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Michael Bruce Goodman, you appear before the Disciplinary Board for the imposition of a Public Reprimand ordered by the Board on May 13, 2025. Along with this reprimand you were ordered to submit proof to Office of Disciplinary Counsel (“ODC”) and the Board that you refunded \$1,050 to Samantha M. Hoban. By letter dated May 13, 2025, the Board notified you of the disposition of this matter and further notified you of your opportunity to demand as of right the institution of formal charges within twenty days of the date of notification. You did not demand the institution of formal charges; therefore, you accept this public reprimand.

It is an unpleasant task to publicly reprimand one who has been granted the privilege of membership in the bar of the Commonwealth. Yet as repugnant as this task may be, it has been found necessary that you receive this public discipline.

Attorney Goodman, the record demonstrates your misconduct in two matters. The matters involve delay, neglect, and failure to communicate with clients in two expungement matters for underage drinking charges. In the Criscuolo matter, after being retained by your client in June 2019, you requested the client’s criminal record from the State Police but never followed up on the request and did not file an expungement petition

on behalf of your client. Although you claimed you prepared a draft petition for expungement and proposed order, you never provided the drafts to your client and/or to her parents for review. Between October 2019 and June 2021, the Criscuolos periodically contacted you and left messages but you failed to communicate with them. On June 18, 2021, you emailed your client and her parents and offered an explanation as to why the expungement had not been completed, which you indicated was due to the COVID backlog in the courts. Thereafter, between June 2021 and October 2023, your client and her parents periodically attempted to check in with you and you failed to communicate with them. By certified letter dated October 2, 2023, your clients notified you that they no longer wanted you to pursue action and requested a refund in the amount of \$810. Although you did not respond to this letter, you eventually refunded the monies on November 22, 2024.

The facts of the Hoban matter are similar. In June 2024, you were paid \$1,050 to expunge records related to your client's underage drinking charge and failed to take any action. Between June 28, 2024 and August 31, 2024, Ms. Hoban periodically attempted to check in with you about her expungement and you failed to communicate with her. Ms. Hoban explained to you that she needed to have the expungement taken care of as she needed to update her college on the matter.

You failed to respond to ODC's inquiries into these matters.

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

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)(2) – A lawyer shall reasonably consult with the client about the means by which the client’s objectives are to be accomplished.
4. RPC 1.4(a)(3) – A lawyer shall keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter.
5. RPC 1.4(a)(4) – A lawyer shall promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.
6. RPC 1.4(b) – A lawyer shall explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation.
7. RPC 1.5(a) – A lawyer shall not enter into an agreement for, charge, or collect an illegal or clearly excessive fee.
8. RPC 1.16(d) – Upon termination of representation, a lawyer shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests, such as giving reasonable notice to the client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, surrendering papers and property to which the client is entitled, and refunding any advance payment of fee or expense that has not been earned or incurred.
9. Pa.R.D.E. 203(b)(7) – Failure by a respondent-attorney without good cause to respond to Disciplinary Counsel’s request or supplemental request under

Disciplinary Board Rules § 87.7(b) for a statement of the respondent-attorney's position.

Attorney Goodman, your conduct in this matter is public. This Public Reprimand is a matter of public record and shall be posted on the Disciplinary Board's website at www.padisciplinaryboard.org.

It is the Board's duty to reprimand you for your misconduct. Please be aware that subsequent violations of the rules may result in further discipline and more severe sanctions. We sincerely hope that you will conduct yourself in such a manner that future disciplinary action will be unnecessary.



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 on August 26, 2025.