

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

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,	:	No. 162 DB 2018
Petitioner	:	
	:	File Nos. C1-16-834, C1-17-96 & C17-
	:	152
v.	:	
	:	Attorney Registration No. 18011
ROBERT J. DIXON	:	
Respondent	:	(Philadelphia)

O R D E R

AND NOW, this 5th day of October 2018, in accordance with Rule 208(a)(5), Pa.R.D.E., the determination by a Review Panel of the Disciplinary Board of the above captioned matter is accepted; and it is

ORDERED that the said ROBERT J. DIXON, of Philadelphia be subjected to a **PUBLIC REPRIMAND** 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.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall be placed on PROBATION for a period of TWO years, subject to the following Conditions:

Conditions of Probation:

1. Respondent shall not commit any violations of the Rules; and
2. Upon completion of the Probation, Respondent shall submit a sworn certification to the Board that he has complied with the above condition.

Failure to abide with the terms of the Probation shall be grounds for further action pursuant to Enforcement Rule 208(h).

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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	:	C1-17-152
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	:	Attorney Registration No. 18011
ROBERT J. DIXON	:	
Respondent	:	(Philadelphia)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Robert J. Dixon, 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. Dixon, this matter concerns your misconduct in three separate client matters.

The record indicates that on or before March 17, 2015, you were court-appointed to represent Wayne Cummings in a PCRA that was pending in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. You failed to properly communicate with your client that you had been appointed to represent him, you failed to consult with Mr. Cummings before filing an Amended PCRA Petition, and you failed to answer your client's letter to you requesting information.

Sometime prior to March 2016, you were retained to represent Hakeem Myatt in two PCRA cases that were pending in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. You failed to consult with Mr. Myatt before filing the Amended PCRA Petitions in both

matters, and failed to provide Mr. Myatt with copies of the Amended PCRA Petitions until Office of Disciplinary Counsel became involved.

On July 5, 2016, you were appointed to represent Wa-Keem Hall in a criminal case in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. You failed to consult with your client about a plea bargain offer and failed to inquire whether your client wanted to accept or reject the offer. You failed to promptly seek to have your client's bail reduced, and failed to advise your client about developments in his case, or respond to your client's inquiries, as well as inquiries from Mr. Hall's father and cousin.

Relative to the Myatt and Hall matters, you failed to respond to Office of Disciplinary Counsel's DB-7 letter requesting a statement of your position.

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

1. RPC 1.2(a) – A lawyer shall abide by a client's decisions concerning the objectives of representation and, as is required by Rule 1.4, shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued.
2. RPC 1.3 – A lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.
3. RPC 1.4(a)(1) – A lawyer shall promptly inform the client of any decision or circumstance with respect to which the client's informed consent, as defined in Rule 1.0(e), is required by these Rules.
4. 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.
5. RPC 1.4(a)(3) – A lawyer shall keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the matter.

6. RPC 1.4(a)(4) – A lawyer shall promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.
7. 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.
8. Pa.R.D.E. 203(b)(7) – Failing to respond to Office of Disciplinary Counsel's DB-7 letters without good cause.

In addition to this Reprimand, you have been placed on probation for a period of two years. The Probation commenced on October 5, 2018. Please be advised that your failure to comply with conditions of Probation shall be grounds for reconsideration of this matter.

It is my duty to reprimand you for your misconduct. We note that you have a record of professional discipline: in 2008, you received an Informal Admonition; in 2015, you received a Private Reprimand; and in 2016, you received a Public Reprimand. 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. Dixon, 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

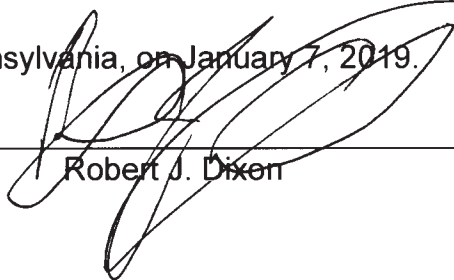


Designated Member
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on January 7, 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 1601 Market Street, Suite 3320, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on January 7, 2019.



Robert J. Dixon