



SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

SUPREME COURT BUILDING
200 East Capitol Avenue
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62701-1721

CYNTHIA A. GRANT
Clerk of the Court

(217) 782-2035
TDD: (217) 524-8132

March 19, 2024

FIRST DISTRICT OFFICE
160 North LaSalle Street, 20th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601-3103
(312) 793-1332
TDD: (312) 793-6185

Athena T. Taite
Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission
One Prudential Plaza, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60601

In re: In re: McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon
M.R.032041

Today the following order was entered in the captioned case:

Petitions by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and respondent McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board. Denied. Respondent McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon is suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year and until further order of the Court, with the suspension stayed after five (5) months by a one (1) year period of probation subject to the following conditions, as recommended by the Review Board:

- a. Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Article VII of the Illinois Supreme Court Rules on Admission and Discipline of Attorneys and the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct and shall timely cooperate with the Administrator in providing information regarding any investigation relating to his conduct;
- b. Respondent shall reimburse the Commission for the costs of this proceeding as defined in Supreme Court Rule 773 and, at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the period of probation, shall reimburse the Commission for any further costs incurred during the period of probation;
- c. At least thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the period of probation, respondent shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct;

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March 19, 2024

ARDC CLERK

- d. Respondent shall notify the Administrator within seven (7) days of any arrest or charge alleging his violation of any criminal or quasi-criminal statute or ordinance;
- e. Respondent shall attend meetings scheduled by the Commission probation officer;
- f. Respondent shall notify the Administrator within fourteen (14) days of any change of address;
- g. Respondent shall successfully complete the ARDC Professionalism Seminar within the first five (5) months of probation;
- h. Respondent's practice of law shall be supervised by a licensed attorney acceptable to the Administrator. Respondent shall provide the name, address, and telephone number of the supervising attorney to the Administrator. Within the first thirty (30) days of probation, respondent shall meet with the supervising attorney and meet at least once a month thereafter. Respondent shall authorize the supervising attorney to provide a report in writing to the Administrator, no less than once every quarter, regarding respondent's cooperation with the supervising attorney, the nature of respondent's work, and the supervising attorney's general appraisal of respondent's practice of law;
- i. Respondent shall provide notice to the Administrator of any change in the supervising attorney within fourteen (14) days of the change;
- j. Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Supreme Court Rule 764(c)(2),(3), and (4), which includes notifying clients that he cannot represent them for five (5) months; they have the right to retain another attorney; and their files are available to them;
- k. Respondent shall submit to an independent audit of his client trust account, conducted by an auditor approved by the Administrator, at respondent's expense, five (5) months after the commencement of probation. Respondent and the Administrator shall each receive copies of the audit. The audit shall establish respondent's maintenance of complete records of client trust accounts, required by Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, including the following:

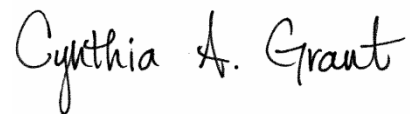
- i. the preparation and maintenance of receipt and disbursement journals for all client trust accounts, containing a record of deposits and withdrawals from client trust accounts specifically identifying the date, source, and description of each item deposited, and date, payee and purpose of each disbursement;
 - ii. the preparation and maintenance of contemporaneous ledger records for all client trust accounts showing for each separate trust client or beneficiary, the source of all funds deposited, the date of each deposit, the names of all persons for whom the funds are or were held, the amount of such funds, the dates, descriptions, and amounts of charges or withdrawals, and the names of all persons to who such funds were disbursed;
 - iii. the maintenance of copies of all accountings to clients or third persons showing the disbursement of funds to them or on their behalf, along with copies of those portions of clients' files that are reasonably necessary for a complete understanding of the financial transactions pertaining to them;
 - iv. the maintenance of all client trust account checkbook registers, check stubs, bank statements, records of deposit, and checks or other records of debits;
 - v. the maintenance of copies of all retainer and compensation agreements with clients;
 - vi. the maintenance of copies of all bills rendered to clients for legal fees and expenses; and
 - vii. the preparation and maintenance of reconciliation reports of all client trust accounts, on at least a quarterly basis, including reconciliations of ledger balances with client trust account balances;
- I. Probation shall be revoked if respondent is found to have violated any of the terms of probation. The remaining period of suspension shall commence from the date of the determination that any term of probation has been violated and shall continue until further order of the Court; and

m. If respondent successfully completes the term of probation, his probation shall terminate without further order of the Court.

Suspension effective April 9, 2024.

Order entered by the Court.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia A. Grant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a distinct 'A'.

Clerk of the Supreme Court

cc: McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon
Michelle Thome

At a Term of the Supreme Court, begun and held in Springfield, on Monday, the 11th day of March, 2024.

Present: Mary Jane Theis, Chief Justice
Justice P. Scott Neville, Jr. Justice David K. Overstreet
Justice Lisa Holder White Justice Joy V. Cunningham
Justice Elizabeth M. Rochford Justice Mary K. O'Brien

On the 19th day of March, 2024, the Supreme Court entered the following judgment:

M.R.032041

In re:

McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon.

Attorney Registration & Disciplinary
Commission

2021PR00012

Petitions by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and respondent McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon for leave to file exceptions to the report and recommendation of the Review Board. Denied. Respondent McStephen Olusegun Adewale Solomon is suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year and until further order of the Court, with the suspension stayed after five (5) months by a one (1) year period of probation subject to the following conditions, as recommended by the Review Board:

- a. Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Article VII of the Illinois Supreme Court Rules on Admission and Discipline of Attorneys and the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct and shall timely cooperate with the Administrator in providing information regarding any investigation relating to his conduct;
- b. Respondent shall reimburse the Commission for the costs of this proceeding as defined in Supreme Court Rule 773 and, at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the period of probation, shall reimburse the Commission for any further costs incurred during the period of probation;
- c. At least thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the period of probation, respondent shall reimburse the Client Protection Program Trust Fund for any Client Protection payments arising from his conduct;
- d. Respondent shall notify the Administrator within seven (7) days of any arrest or charge alleging his violation of any criminal or quasi-criminal statute or ordinance;
- e. Respondent shall attend meetings scheduled by the Commission probation officer;
- f. Respondent shall notify the Administrator within fourteen (14) days of any change of address;

- g. Respondent shall successfully complete the ARDC Professionalism Seminar within the first five (5) months of probation;
- h. Respondent's practice of law shall be supervised by a licensed attorney acceptable to the Administrator. Respondent shall provide the name, address, and telephone number of the supervising attorney to the Administrator. Within the first thirty (30) days of probation, respondent shall meet with the supervising attorney and meet at least once a month thereafter. Respondent shall authorize the supervising attorney to provide a report in writing to the Administrator, no less than once every quarter, regarding respondent's cooperation with the supervising attorney, the nature of respondent's work, and the supervising attorney's general appraisal of respondent's practice of law;
- i. Respondent shall provide notice to the Administrator of any change in the supervising attorney within fourteen (14) days of the change;
- j. Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Supreme Court Rule 764(c)(2),(3), and (4), which includes notifying clients that he cannot represent them for five (5) months; they have the right to retain another attorney; and their files are available to them;
- k. Respondent shall submit to an independent audit of his client trust account, conducted by an auditor approved by the Administrator, at respondent's expense, five (5) months after the commencement of probation. Respondent and the Administrator shall each receive copies of the audit. The audit shall establish respondent's maintenance of complete records of client trust accounts, required by Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, including the following:
 - i. the preparation and maintenance of receipt and disbursement journals for all client trust accounts, containing a record of deposits and withdrawals from client trust accounts specifically identifying the date, source, and description of each item deposited, and date, payee and purpose of each disbursement;
 - ii. the preparation and maintenance of contemporaneous ledger records for all client trust accounts showing for each separate trust client or beneficiary, the source of all funds deposited, the date of each deposit, the names of all persons for whom the funds are or were held, the amount of such funds, the dates, descriptions, and amounts of charges or withdrawals, and the names of all persons to who such funds were disbursed;
 - iii. the maintenance of copies of all accountings to clients or third persons showing the disbursement of funds to them or on their behalf, along with copies of those portions of clients' files that are reasonably necessary for a complete understanding of the financial transactions pertaining to them;
 - iv. the maintenance of all client trust account checkbook registers, check stubs, bank statements, records of deposit, and checks or other records of debits;
 - v. the maintenance of copies of all retainer and compensation agreements with clients;
 - vi. the maintenance of copies of all bills rendered to clients for legal fees and expenses; and

- vii. the preparation and maintenance of reconciliation reports of all client trust accounts, on at least a quarterly basis, including reconciliations of ledger balances with client trust account balances;
- I. Probation shall be revoked if respondent is found to have violated any of the terms of probation. The remaining period of suspension shall commence from the date of the determination that any term of probation has been violated and shall continue until further order of the Court; and
- m. If respondent successfully completes the term of probation, his probation shall terminate without further order of the Court.

Suspension effective April 9, 2024.

As Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois and keeper of the records, files and Seal thereof, I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the final order entered in this case.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed the seal of said Supreme Court, in Springfield, in said State, this 19th day of March, 2024.

Cynthia A. Grant
Clerk,
Supreme Court of the State of Illinois