ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

9022

Misc. Docket No. 01-----

Appointment of a District Judge to Rule on a Motion to Recuse filed in a State Bar Disciplinary Action

The Supreme Court of Texas hereby appoints the Honorable Jesse A. Holloway, Judge of the 350th District Court of Taylor County, Texas, to preside in the Disciplinary Action styled:

The Commission for Lawyer Discipline v. Alfonzo Greenidge

to be filed in a District Court of Dallas County, Texas.

The Clerk of the Supreme Court shall promptly forward to the District Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, a copy of the Disciplinary Petition and this Order for filing and service pursuant to Rule 3.03, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

As ordered by the Supreme Court of Texas, in chambers,

With the Seal thereof affixed at the City Of Austin, this 33 day of January, 2001.

JOHN T. ADAMS, CLERK SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS This assignment, made by Misc. Docket No. 01-9022, is also an assignment by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court pursuant to Texas Government Code §74.057.

Signed this 2 day of January, 2001.

Thomas R. Phillips

Chief Justice

COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
v.	§ §	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS
ALFONZO GREENIDGE	§ §	JUDICIAL DISTRICT

NO.

DISCIPLINARY PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, a committee of the State Bar of Texas (hereinafter called "Petitioner"), complains of Respondent, Alfonzo Greenidge, (hereinafter called "Respondent"), showing the Court:

I.

Discovery Control Plan

Pursuant to Rules 190.1 and 190.3, TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE (TRCP), Petitioner intends discovery in this case to be conducted under the Level II Discovery Control Plan.

II.

Petitioner brings this disciplinary action pursuant to the State Bar Act, Tex. Gov't. Code Ann. §81.001, et seq. (Vernon 1988), the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct and the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. The complaint which forms the basis of the Disciplinary Petition was filed on or after May 1, 1992.

III.

Respondent is an attorney licensed to practice law in Texas and is a member of the State Bar of Texas. Respondent is a resident of and has his principal place of practice in Dallas County,

Alfonzo Greenidge - Disciplinary Petition
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Texas. An officer may serve citation on Respondent at 1700 Commerce Street, Suite 950, Dallas, Texas 75201.

IV.

Jhanet Quintero ("Quintero") was the beneficiary of a \$50,000.00 life insurance policy her father left her when he died. The funds were deposited into a money market investment account with Comerica Bank, and Annette Guinsburg was named as guardian of the estate until Quintero reached the age of eighteen years. Upon turning eighteen, Quintero went to Comerica Bank to claim her money. At that time, Annette Guinsburg referred her to Guinsburg's attorney, Barkley Miller. Barkley Miller informed Quintero it would take about twenty-five days to receive her money.

V.

On or about November 18, 1999, Quintero met with Rosa Flores, Respondent's legal assistant, seeking Respondent's assistance in collecting the proceeds from Quintero's father's life insurance policy. Quintero entered into a contract with Respondent agreeing to pay Respondent twenty-five (25%) percent of the proceeds of the policy. Quintero never met Respondent, but conducted all matters involving the representation with Flores. On December 20, 1999, Respondent's legal assistant, Rosa Flores, sent Quintero to attorney Barkley Miller's office with a man who represented himset to Quintero to be Respondent. Quintero received a check from Miller for the proceeds. This person gave Quintero five-thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), and told her to come back in a month to get the remainder of her money. When Quintero returned one month later to collect her money, Respondent's legal assistant, Corbett Hutchinson, gave Quintero several

excuses and did not give Quintero her money. Quintero and her mother returned to Respondent's office, and Corbett Hutchinson asked them to leave. Corbett Hutchinson eventually signed an agreement (as legal assistant to Respondent) that Quintero could pick up her money on January 26, 2000. Hutchinson wrote Quintero a check post-dated February 7, 2000 for \$36,518.42, but subsequently stopped payment on the check. Hutchinson then advised Quintero that she would have to deal with Respondent.

VI.

Such acts and/or omissions on the part of Respondent as are described in Paragraphs IV and V, hereinabove, which occurred on or after January 1, 1990, constitute conduct which violates Rules 1.03(a),(b), 1.04(a), 1.14(b), 5.03(a), (b)(1), 5.04(a)(b), 5.05(b), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(12) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

VII.

The complaint which forms the basis of the Cause of Action hereinabove set forth was brought to the attention of the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas by Jhanet Quintero filing a complaint on or about January 24, 2000.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

VIII.

In or about September 1999, chiropractor, Michael Howe ("Howe") discussed with Respondent's legal assistant, Corbett Hutchinson, the possibility of hiring Hutchinson to collect delinquent patient accounts, particularly those accounts in which an attorney had provided Howe with a Letter of Protection. Howe agreed to allow Hutchinson to take some of his patient files for

the stated purpose of determining an appropriate fee. However, Hutchinson began collecting Howe's accounts without Howe's authority. Thereafter, Hutchinson failed to remit any of the collected money to Howe.

IX.

On or about October 18, 1999, Respondent opened a bank account at MainBank N.A., styled "The Greenidge Law Offices." Both Respondent and Hutchinson were authorized to sign checks on the account. Thereafter, on or about November 11, 1999, Hutchinson wrote a check to Howe that was returned unpaid. When Howe called Respondent, he refused to discuss the matter with Howe. Howe sent a certified letter to Respondent ordering a cessation of all collection activity on Howe's behalf. However, Respondent and Mr. Hutchinson continued to collect Howe's funds and failed to remit the funds to Howe.

X.

On or about March 2, 2000, the Grievance Committee requested Respondent provide information regarding check 1013 written on Respondent's trust account. The Grievance Committee also requested Respondent to provide a copy of the signature card for his trust account and a copy of check numbers 1012 and 1014 for the account. Respondent failed to provide the requested information.

XI.

Such acts and/or omissions on the part of Respondent as are described in Paragraphs VIII, IX and X, hereinabove, which occurred on or after January 1, 1990, constitute conduct which

violates Rules 1.02(a)(1), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 5.03(b)(2), 5.05(b), 8.04(a)(3) and 8.01(b) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

XII.

The complaint which forms the basis of the Cause of Action hereinabove set forth was brought to the attention of the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas by Michael Howe filing a complaint on or about December 7, 1999.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

XIII.

On or about November 16, 1999, Dennis Williams ("Williams") hired Respondent to represent him in a misdemeanor case. Williams paid Respondent \$900.00. Thereafter, Respondent failed to perform any meaningful legal services on Williams' behalf. Respondent would not accept or return Williams' telephone calls, and would not tell Williams the date he was to appear in court. Williams was arrested on a warrant for failure to appear.

XIV.

Such acts and/or omissions on the part of Respondent as are described in Paragraph XII, hereinabove, which occurred on or after January 1, 1990, constitute conduct which violates Rules 1.01(b)(1) and 1.03(a) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

XV.

The complaint which forms the basis of the Cause of Action hereinabove set forth was brought to the attention of the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas by Dennis Williams filing a complaint on or about December 18, 1999.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Petitioner prays for judgment that Respondent be disciplined as the facts shall warrant; and that Petitioner have such other relief to which entitled, including costs of Court and attorney's fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn MillerChief Disciplinary Counsel

Ardita Vick Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

State Bar of Texas Litigation - Dallas 3710 Rawlins Suite 800 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 559-4353 FAX (214) 559-4335

Ardita Vick

State Bar Card No. 00786311

ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER

STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel

December 14, 2000

7099 3220 005 9143 5133

John T. Adams, Clerk Supreme Court of Texas P.O. Box 12248 Austin, Texas 78711

RE: Commission for Lawyer Discipline v. Alfonzo Greenidge

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed please find an original and two (2) copies of a Disciplinary Petition being filed by the Commission for Lawyer Discipline against Alfonzo Greenidge. Mr. Greenidge has designated Dallas County, Texas, as his principal place of practice. Request is hereby made that the Court appoint an active District Judge who does not reside in the Administrative Judicial Region in which Respondent resides to preside in this case. Upon appointment, request is made that you notify the Respondent at the address shown below and the undersigned of the identity and address of the judge assigned:

Alfonzo Greenidge 1700 Commerce Street Suite 950 Dallas, Texas 75201

As a practical matter, I would respectfully suggest that you inquire with the judge to be appointed as to: (1) whether he or she will be able to comply with the 180 day deadline by which the case must be set for trial set forth in Section 3.07 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. If not, I would respectfully request that an alternate appointment be made.

Regency Plaza, 3710 Rawlins, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75219 Telephone: (214) 559-4353 Fax: (214) 559-4335 John T. Adams, Clerk Page 2

Once a trial judge has been appointed, please forward the original and two (2) copies of the Disciplinary Petition, the filing fee check, also enclosed herewith, and the Court's appointing order to the District Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, with the request that the suit be filed, service be obtained, and a file-marked copy of the petition be returned to the undersigned.

Also enclosed are a pre-addressed envelope for your use in transmitting the petition, etc., to the District Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, and a return envelope to be sent to the District Clerk of Dallas County, Texas, for the Clerk's use in returning a file-marked copy of the Petition to the undersigned.

Thank you for your courtesies in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ardita Vick

Assistant Disciplinary Counsel

Enclosures



The Supreme Court of Texas

CHIEF JUSTICE THOMAS R. PHILLIPS

JUSTICES
NATHAN L. HECHT
CRAIG T. ENOCH
PRISCILLA R. OWEN
JAMES A. BAKER
GREG ABBOTT
DEBORAH G. HANKINSON
HARRIET O'NEILL
ALBERTO R. GONZALES

201 West 14th Street Post Office Box 12248 Austin TX 78711 Telephone: 512/463-1312 Facsimile: 512/463-1365

JAN 3 0 2001

CLERK
JOHN T. ADAMS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WILLIAM L. WILLIS

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ASST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NADINE SCHNEIDER

Ms. Ardita Vick Assistant General Counsel, State Bar of Texas 3710 Rawlins, Suite 800 Dallas, Texas 75219

Mr. Alfonzo Greenidge 1700 Commerce Street, Suite 950 Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Ms. Vick and Mr. Greenidge:

Pursuant to Rule 3.02 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, I hereby notify you that the Supreme Court of Texas has appointed the Honorable Alfonzo Greenidge, Judge of the 350th District Court, Abilene, Texas to preside in

Commission for Lawyer Discipline v. Alfonzo Greenidge

Sincerely,

John T. Adams

Clerk



The Supreme Court of Texas

CHIEF JUSTICE THOMAS R. PHILLIPS

JUSTICES

NATHAN L. HECHT

CRAIG T. ENOCH

PRISCILLA R. OWEN

JAMES A. BAKER

GREG ABBOTT

DEBORAH G. HANKINSON

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201 West 14th Street Post Office Box 12248 Austin TX 78711 Telephone: 512/463-1312 Facsimile: 512/463-1365

JAN 3 0 2001

CLERK
JOHN T. ADAMS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WILLIAM L. WILLIS

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ASST JIM HUTCHESON

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NADINE SCHNEIDER

Honorable Jesse A. Holloway Judge, 350th District Court 300 Oak Street Abilene, Texas 79602

Dear Judge Holloway:

We enclose for your information a copy of the order of assignment, a copy of the Disciplinary Action, a copy of the notification letter to Mr. Greenidge and Ms. Vick, and a copy of the letter to the District Clerk of Dallas County.

We then recommend that, either before or immediately after you set the case for trial, the Dallas County District Court Administrative Office (214-653-6510) be contacted to reserve a courtroom, provide for a court reporter, etc. Finally, you should contact the Presiding Judge of the Administrative Judicial Region into which you have been assigned (214-653-2943) to obtain information on lodging, allowable expenses, and claims forms for your expenses incident to presiding over this disciplinary case.

Sincerely,

John T. Adams Clerk



The Supreme Court of Texas

CHIEF JUSTICE THOMAS R. PHILLIPS

JUSTICES
NATHAN L. HECHT
CRAIG T. ENOCH
PRISCILLA R. OWEN
JAMES A. BAKER
GREG ABBOTT
DEBORAH G. HANKINSON
HARRIET O'NEILL
ALBERTO R. GONZALES

201 West 14th Street Post Office Box 12248 Austin TX 78711 Telephone: 512/463-1312 Facsimile: 512/463-1365

JAN 3 0 2001

CLERK JOHN T. ADAMS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WILLIAM L. WILLIS

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ASST JIM HUTCHESON

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NADINE SCHNEIDER

The Honorable Jim Hamlin District Clerk of Dallas County George L. Allen Courts Building 600 Commerce Street Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Mr. Hamlin:

Pursuant to Rule 3.03 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, I am sending for filing State Bar of Texas Disciplinary Action styled: *The Commission for Lawyer Discipline v. Alfonzo Greenidge*, and a copy of the Supreme Court's order appointing the Honorable Jesse A. Holloway, Judge of the 350th District Court of Abilene, Texas, to preside in this Disciplinary Action.

Sincerely,

John T. Adams

Clerk

cc:

Honorable Jesse A. Holloway

Ms. Ardita Vick

Mr. Alfonzo Greenidge