

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS
IN THE MATTER OF LAURENCE A. BRANSGROVE**

MISC. DOCKET NO. 98- 9056

ORDER

On this day, the court considered the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation in Lieu of Discipline filed by Attorney and Counselor at Law, Laurence A. Bransgrove, together with the Response by Chief Disciplinary Counsel to the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation in Lieu of Discipline as Attorney and Counselor of Laurence A. Bransgrove. The Court has reviewed said Motion and Response and finds that each meets the requirements of Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. In conformity with Part X, Section 10.02, of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, the Court considers the detailed statement of professional misconduct contained within the Response of Chief Disciplinary Counsel to be conclusively established for all purposes. The Court, being advised that the acceptance of the resignation is in the best interest of the public and the profession, hereby concludes that the following Order is appropriate.

IT IS ORDERED that the law license of Laurence A. Bransgrove of Amarillo, Texas, State Bar Card Number 02897600, heretofore issued by the Court, be cancelled and his name be dropped and deleted from the list of persons licensed to practice law in Texas.

The Court acknowledges receipt of an Affidavit regarding the lost Texas law license and State Bar Card of Laurence A. Bransgrove.

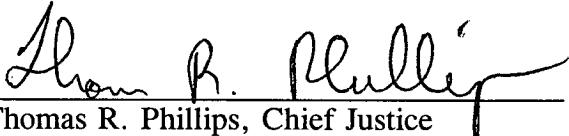
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Laurence A. Bransgrove, be and hereby is, permanently enjoined and prohibited from practicing law in the State of Texas, holding himself out as an attorney at law, performing any legal services for others, giving legal advice to others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services, appearing as counsel or in any


representative capacity in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body (whether state, county, municipal, or other), or holding himself out to others or using his name in any manner in conjunction with the words "Attorney at Law," "Counselor at Law," or "Lawyer."

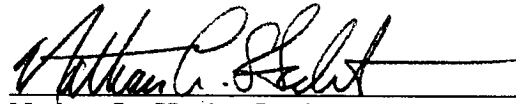
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Laurence A. Bransgrove, shall, within thirty (30) days after the date on which this Order is signed by the Court, notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every Texas court in which Laurence A. Bransgrove may have any client matter pending, advising each court of his resignation, of the style and cause number of any matter pending in that court, and of the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) he is representing in that court. Laurence A. Bransgrove, is ORDERED to send copies of all such notifications to the Office of the General Counsel, State Bar of Texas, 201 Main Street, Suite 1150, Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

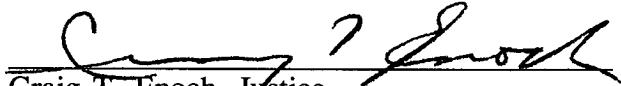
By the Court, en banc and in chambers, on this the 15th day of


April, 1998.

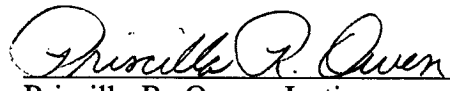

Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice


Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice

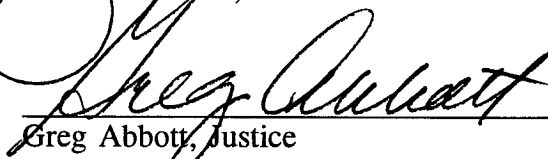

Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

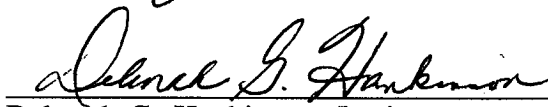

Craig T. Enoch, Justice


Rose Spector, Justice


Priscilla R. Owen, Justice


James A. Baker, Justice


Greg Abbott, Justice


Deborah G. Hankinson, Justice

STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel

March 26, 1998

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

Re: Laurence A. Bransgrove

Dear Mr. Adams:

Pursuant to Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, please find enclosed herewith the following:

- (1) Original executed Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law for the above referenced attorney with affidavit regarding lost bar card and law license.
- (2) Original and two (2) copies of the Response of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel to Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law for the above referenced attorney; and
- (3) Original Order of Resignation for the Court's signature.

Pursuant to Rule 10.02 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, the required ten (10) day time frame has passed and the above-referenced attorney has made no attempt to withdraw the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation. Therefore, the detailed statement of professional misconduct is deemed to have been conclusively established for all purposes.

Pease return a fully executed copy of the Order to our office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Denise C. Stooksberry".

Denise C. Stooksberry
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel
State Bar of Texas

/am

Enclosures

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS
MOTION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION AS
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

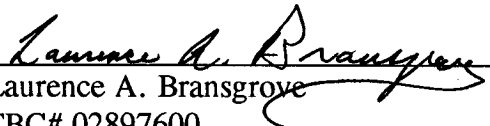
OF

Laurence A. Bransgrove

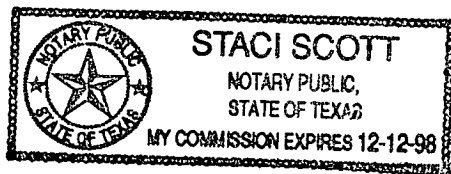
NOW COMES your Applicant, Laurence A. Bransgrove, and hereby resigns as an Attorney and Counselor at Law in the State of Texas; and hereby submits to the Court his resignation as an Attorney and Counselor at Law; and prays that the Court accept said resignation.

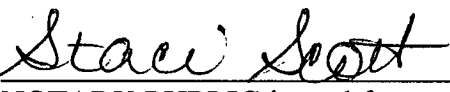
Attached hereto is the Affidavit of Lost License and State Bar card issued by this Court to the Applicant, Laurence A. Bransgrove, as an Attorney and Counselor at Law on May 8, 1987. Said License and permanent State Bar card are hereby surrendered by the Applicant.

Your Applicant is voluntarily resigning and withdrawing from the practice of law; Applicant does so in lieu of discipline for professional misconduct; and Applicant prays that his name be dropped and deleted from the list of persons licensed to practice law in Texas; and that his resignation be accepted.


Laurence A. Bransgrove
TBC# 02897600

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by the said Laurence A. Bransgrove this the 17th day of January, 1998.




NOTARY PUBLIC in and for
the State of Texas

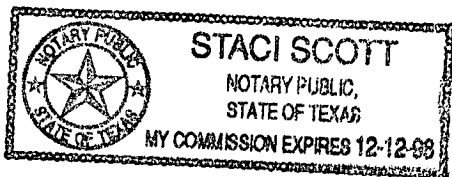
Laurence A. Bransgrove
P. O. Box 9682
Amarillo, TX 79105-9682

AFFIDAVIT OF LAURENCE A. BRANSGROVE

On this 17th day of January, 1998, personally appeared before me, the undersigned **Laurence A. Bransgrove**, who, after being duly sworn, did state upon his oath:

"My name is **Laurence A. Bransgrove**, and I am over the age of eighteen years and am competent to make this affidavit in all respects, and am personally acquainted with the facts in this Affidavit."

"I am an attorney licensed in the State of Texas. My bar card number is 02897600. I hereby acknowledge that the license to practice law and the permanent State Bar card issued to me by the Supreme Court of Texas are the property of the Supreme Court of Texas. The license to practice law and the State Bar card issued to me were lost. If the license to practice law and the State Bar card issued to me are found or recovered, they will be promptly returned to the Supreme Court of Texas."



Laurence A. Bransgrove
LAURENCE A. BRANSGROVE
Texas Bar No. 02897600

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME on this the 17th day of January, 1998.

Staci Scott
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

**RESPONSE OF THE CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL OF THE
STATE BAR OF TEXAS REGARDING
LAURENCE A. BRANSGROVE**

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

I, Steven W. Young, Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas, in accordance with Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, hereby file a response on behalf of the State Bar of Texas, acting by and through the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, to the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation in Lieu of Discipline as Attorney and Counselor at Law of Laurence A. Bransgrove, dated January 17, 1998. The acceptance of the resignation of Laurence A. Bransgrove is in the best interest of the public and the profession.

The professional misconduct with which Laurence A. Bransgrove (hereafter called "Bransgrove"), is charged is as follows:

F0089605515

On December 29, 1994, Jose Preciado (the "Complainant") retained Bransgrove to defend him in a paternity suit. Bransgrove neglected the case and failed to communicate with Complainant.

On August 13, 1996, Bransgrove received a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written response was required within thirty days. Bransgrove did not submit his response until the date of the grievance hearing held November 16, 1996.

The foregoing facts support violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0089605537

On September 6, 1995, Bransgrove was hired to represent Elizabeth Harris (the "Complainant") in a civil suit against a dry cleaning company. Bransgrove neglected the case and failed to communicate with Complainant.

On August 20, 1996, Bransgrove received a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written response was required within thirty days. Bransgrove did not submit his response until the date of the grievance hearing held on November 16, 1996.

The foregoing facts support violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0119605937

On June 7, 1995, Rhonda Rauh (the "Complainant") retained Bransgrove to represent her in seeking and obtaining divorce modification orders to allow her son to live with his father. Bransgrove neglected the matter and did not communicate with her during his representation.

On November 26, 1996, Bransgrove received a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written response was required within thirty days. Bransgrove did not submit his response until February 6, 1997.

The foregoing facts support violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0039706253

Bransgrove represented CrustBuster/Speed King Incorporated (the "Client") in a products liability case filed in Kansas. Bransgrove failed to keep the client reasonably informed about the status of the legal matter for which he was retained, and failed to comply with reasonable requests

for information. Bransgrove neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to respond to discovery requests, failing to comply with a court established deadline, failing to appear at a pre-trial conference, and failing to honor orders compelling discovery. Bransgrove was discharged on January 20, 1997. The client retained new counsel, Thomas W. Young, to represent it, and requested the return of its file. Bransgrove failed to return the client's file. This Complaint, made by Thomas W. Young ("Complainant") on behalf of the client, was filed on March 4, 1997.

On March 25, 1997, Bransgrove received a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written response was required within thirty days. Bransgrove neither responded, nor asserted any grounds for his failure to respond.

The foregoing facts support violation of Rules 1.01(b), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.15(d), 8.01(b), 8.04(a)(1), 8.04(a)(8), and 8.05(a) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0069706656

Bransgrove represented Donna Swinford (the "Complainant") in reference to a citation for speeding. Bransgrove failed to keep Complainant reasonably informed about the status of her legal matter and failed to comply with reasonable requests for information. In addition, Bransgrove neglected a legal matter entrusted to him when he failed to forward Complainant's money to the court in reference to her citation for speeding.

On June 30, 1997, Bransgrove was delivered a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written reply was required within thirty days. Bransgrove failed to provide a reply within the required time.

The foregoing facts support violations of Rules 1.01(b), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

Disciplinary actions currently pending against Laurence A. Bransgrove are as follows:

F0089706881

This disciplinary action is before the Investigatory Panel 5 of District 13A Grievance Committee. Bransgrove received a retainer and agreed to represent Manuel and Alma Gutierrez (the "Clients") in pursuing their claims under the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act. Bransgrove neglected the matter and failed to communicate with the clients during his representation. Rhonda Fuller (the "Complainant") filed this complaint on behalf of the Gutierrezes. On August 27, 1997, Bransgrove received a copy of this complaint, accompanied by a letter advising him that a written response was required within thirty days. Bransgrove did not submit a response until January 17, 1998.

The foregoing facts support violation of Rules 1.01(b), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14, 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

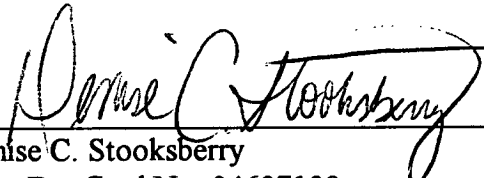
WHEREFORE, the State Bar of Texas moves the Court to accept the resignation in lieu of discipline, and grant the motion filed by Laurence A. Bransgrove.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve W. Young
General Counsel

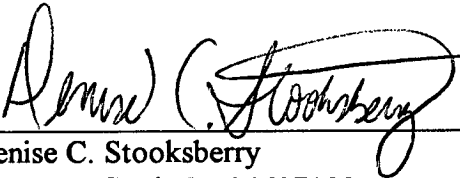
Denise C. Stooksberry
Assistant General Counsel

Office of the General Counsel
STATE BAR OF TEXAS
201 Main Street, Suite 1150
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
817/877-4993
817/335-4249 (FAX)


Denise C. Stooksberry
State Bar Card No. 04607100

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A true and correct copy of this Response of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas Regarding Laurence A. Bransgrove has been served upon Laurence A. Bransgrove, by and through his attorney of record, John Thomas Boyd, Jr., 500 S. Taylor, Amarillo, Texas 79101-2442, by delivery of a true and correct copy to him by certified mail, return receipt requested, on the 10th day of March, 1998.


Denise C. Stooksberry
State Bar Card No. 04607100