

Supreme Court of Texas

Misc. Docket No. 23-9013

In The Matter of Richard Laird

The Court has reviewed the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law in Lieu of Disciplinary Action of Richard Laird (the Motion) and the Response of the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel for the Commission for Lawyer Discipline (the Response). The Court concludes each meets the requirements of Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. The Court finds that Richard Laird has waived the right to withdraw the Motion. Therefore, the Court deems the professional misconduct detailed in the Response conclusively established for all purposes. The Court further concludes that Richard Laird's resignation is in the best interest of the public and the profession.

Therefore, the law license of Richard Laird of Austin, Texas, State Bar Card Number 00784433, is canceled. Richard Laird ("Resignee") must immediately surrender Resignee's State Bar Card and Texas law license to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas or file with the Court an affidavit stating why Resignee cannot.

Richard Laird is prohibited from practicing law in the State of Texas. Richard Laird is prohibited from holding themselves out as an attorney at law, performing 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 themselves out to others or using Resignee's name in any manner in conjunction with the word "Attorney at Law," "Counselor at Law," or "Lawyer."

Additionally, Richard Laird must immediately notify in writing each of Resignee's current clients and opposing counsel of this resignation. Richard Laird must also return any files, papers, unearned monies, and other property in Resignee's possession belonging to any client or former client to the respective client or former client or to another attorney at the client's or former client's request. Richard Laird must file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within thirty days of the date of this Order an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of this resignation and that all files, papers, monies, and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned.

Finally, Richard Laird must, within thirty days after the date of this Order, notify in writing each justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each court in which Richard Laird has any matter pending of the terms of this Order, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address, and telephone number of the client(s) that Richard Laird is representing in court. Richard Laird must file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within thirty days of the date of this Order an affidavit stating that Resignee has notified in writing each justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each court in which Resignee has any matter pending

of the terms of this Order, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) Richard Laird is representing in Court.

CONDITIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT

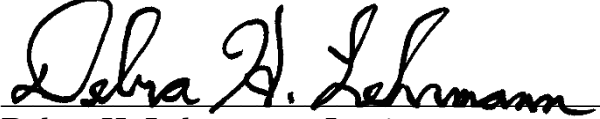
As absolute conditions precedent for the reinstatement of Richard Laird he must pay the following: (1) restitution to Julius Lofton in the amount of \$6,372.37; (2) restitution to Alma Allen-Johnson in the amount of \$941.00; (3) restitution to JaNica Gothwright in the amount of \$775.00; (4) restitution to Alberto Ybarra in the amount of \$1,225.00; (5) restitution to Samuel Manago in the amount of \$1,250.00; and (6) \$5,884.80 in attorneys' fees and expenses to the State Bar of Texas. The attorneys' fees and expenses payable to the State Bar of Texas are reimbursement for fees and expenses incurred by Commission for Lawyer Discipline in the matters made the basis of Richard Laird's resignation.

All payments of restitution must be made by certified or cashier's check or money order and must be delivered to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado Street, Austin, Texas 78701).

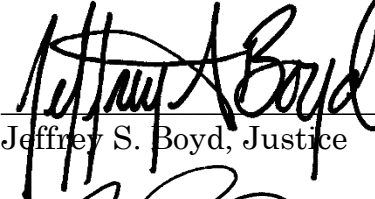
SO ORDERED this 7th day of March, 2023.



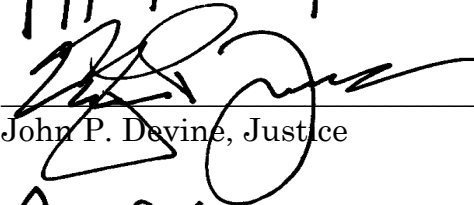
Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice




Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice



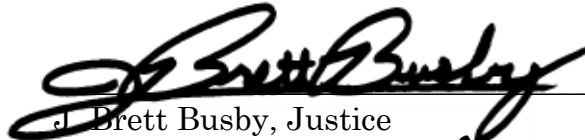
Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice




John P. Devine, Justice



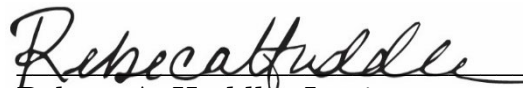
James D. Blacklock, Justice



J. Brett Busby, Justice



Jane N. Bland, Justice



Rebeca A. Huddle, Justice



Evan A. Young, Justice