

**ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS**

MISC. DOCKET NO. 02- 0016

**IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE V. GRIFFIN**

On this day, the Court considered the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law of George V. Griffin, together with the Response of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel to the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law of George V. Griffin. 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 deemed conclusively established for all purposes. The Court finds that George V. Griffin is resigning in lieu of discipline. 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 George V. Griffin of Fort Worth, Texas, State Bar card number 08459000, which was previously issued by this Court, be canceled and his name be dropped and deleted from the list of persons licensed to practice law in Texas.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that George V. Griffin immediately surrender his State Bar Card and Texas law license to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas or file with the Court an affidavit stating the cause of his inability to do so.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that George V. Griffin is permanently enjoined and prohibited from practicing law in the State of Texas, holding himself 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 himself out to others or using his name in any manner in conjunction with the words "Attorney at Law", "Counselor at Law", or "Lawyer".

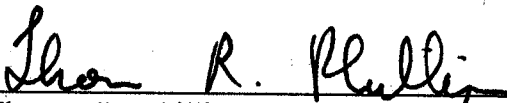
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that George V. Griffin shall immediately notify each of his current clients in writing of this resignation. In addition to such notification, George V. Griffin is **ORDERED** to return any files, papers, unearned monies and other property belonging to clients and former clients in his possession to the respective clients or former clients or to another attorney at the client's or former client's request. George V. Griffin is **ORDERED** to file with the State Bar of Texas, 6100 S.W. Blvd., Suite 320, Fort Worth, Texas 76109, within thirty (30) days of the date of the effective date of this Order an affidavit stating that all current clients have been notified of his resignation and that all files, papers, monies and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned as ordered herein.

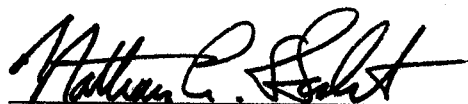
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that George V. Griffin shall, within thirty (30) days after the date on which this Order is signed by the Court, notify in writing each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which George V. Griffin has any matter pending 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) George V. Griffin is representing in Court. George V. Griffin is **ORDERED** to file with the State Bar of Texas, 6100 S.W. Blvd., Ste 320, Fort Worth, Texas 76109, within thirty (30) days of the date of the effective date of this Order an affidavit stating that he has notified in writing each and every justice of the

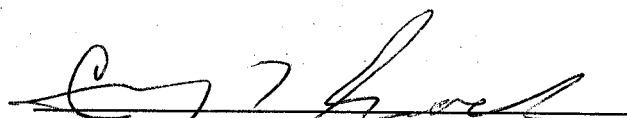
peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which he has any matter pending of the terms of this Order, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) he is representing in Court.


**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that George V. Griffin shall make restitution to Orville Barnum in the amount of Seven Hundred and Fifty (\$750.00) Dollars by cashier's check or money order made payable to Orville Barnum and delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, 6100 S.W. Blvd., Ste 320, Fort Worth, Texas 76109, as an absolute condition precedent to making application for reinstatement for admission to the State Bar of Texas.

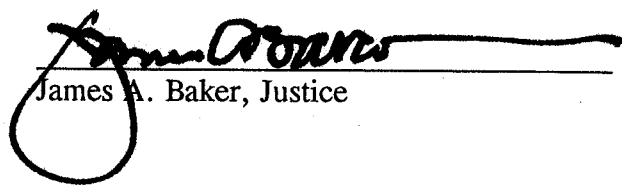
By the Court, en banc, in chambers, this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January ~~2001~~ <sup>2002</sup>.

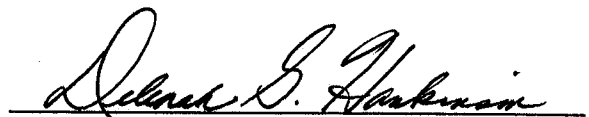
  
Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice

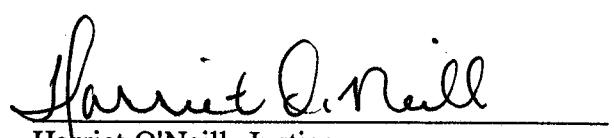
  
Nathan L. Hecht, Justice

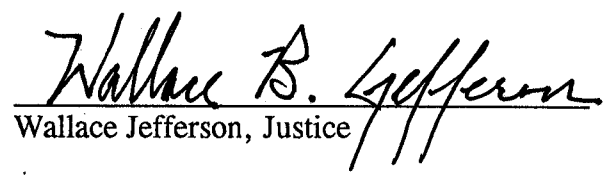
  
Craig T. Enoch, Justice

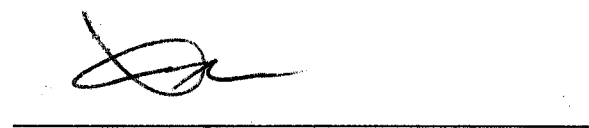
  
Priscilla R. Owen, Justice

  
James A. Baker, Justice

  
Deborah G. Hankinson, Justice

  
Harriet O'Neill, Justice

  
Wallace Jefferson, Justice

  
Xavier Rodriguez, Justice

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

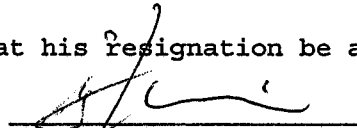
OF

George V. Griffin

NOW COMES your Applicant, George V. Griffin, 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.

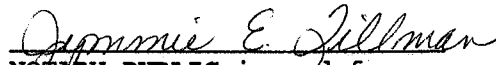
Attached hereto is the License and permanent State Bar card issued by this Court to the Applicant, George V. Griffin, as an Attorney and Counselor at Law on September 15, 1969. Said License and permanent State Bar card are hereby surrendered by the Applicant.

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.

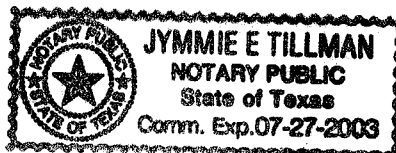
  
George V. Griffin  
08459000

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by the said George V. Griffin this the

28<sup>TH</sup> day of December, 2001.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC in and for  
the State of Texas

George V. Griffin  
Po Box 121123  
Fort Worth, Texas 76121-1123  
CF6-17.PRI



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS  
RESPONSE OF THE CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL  
OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS  
REGARDING  
GEORGE V. GRIFFIN**

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

I, Amy Messer, Assistant 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 as Attorney and Counselor at Law of George V. Griffin, dated on or about December 28, 2001, and received by the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel on or about December 28, 2001. The acceptance of the resignation of George V. Griffin (hereinafter referred to as "Griffin") is in the best interests of the public and the profession.

The following disciplinary action is currently pending against Griffin in the State Bar of Texas Evidentiary process. The professional misconduct with which Griffin is charged in the Evidentiary process is as follows:

**F0080010581**

In or around May of 1997, Jodi Nance retained George Griffin to represent her in litigation related to a probate matter. During the representation, Griffin neglected the legal matter entrusted to him when he failed to timely file notice of an appeal on Nance's behalf. Griffin failed to carry out completely the obligations that a lawyer owes to a client. Griffin failed to respond to Nance's complaint in writing as required by Section 2.09 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

The above facts support a violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), and 8.04(a)(8) of the

Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0120010974

Robert Gonzalez retained George Griffin in 1997 to file a deceptive trade practice lawsuit. Griffin failed to meet the deadline when he allowed the two year statute of limitations to expire without him filing the lawsuit for Gonzalez. Griffin failed to give Gonzalez reasonable notice before the statute of limitations ran, to allow Gonzalez time to employ other counsel if he so desired. Griffin failed to respond to the complaint in writing as required by Section 2.09 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

The above facts support a violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

F0110010843

Orville Barnum retained George Griffin in 1997 to handle a probate matter. Griffin neglected the legal matter entrusted to him when he failed to meet the filing deadline and by failing to completely carry out his obligations when he failed to provide any meaningful legal service to Barnum. Griffin failed to keep Barnum reasonably informed about the status of the matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable request for information. Griffin engaged in deceit and misrepresentation by informing Complainant that he had filed the necessary documentation to contest the probate, when in fact nothing had been filed with the court.

The above facts support a violation of Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.15(d), 8.04(a)(3), and 8.04(a)(8) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

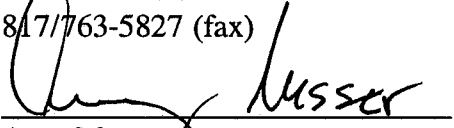
In view of George V. Griffin's execution on or about December 28, 2001, of his resignation as an attorney and counselor at law, and in anticipation of the Court's acceptance of

same, the Chief Disciplinary Counsel does not anticipate going forward with the pending proceedings in any Evidentiary hearing and intends to dismiss the complaints and disciplinary action upon entry of Order by the Supreme Court of Texas deleting George V. Griffin from the list of persons licensed to practice law in the State of Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Miller  
Chief Disciplinary Counsel

Amy Messer  
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel  
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel  
STATE BAR OF TEXAS  
6100 SW Blvd., Ste 320  
Fort Worth, Texas 76109  
817/763-8066  
817/763-5827 (fax)

  
Amy Messer  
State Bar Card No. 00790705



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A true and correct copy of this Response of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas Regarding George V. Griffin, has on this 4 day of January, 2002, been mailed to George V. Griffin at P.O. Box 121123, Fort Worth, Texas 76121-1123, by certified mail, return receipt requested.



Amy Messer  
State Bar Card No. 00790705

# STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**  
**7000 1670 0011 9701 5913**

January 7, 2001

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

Re: George V. Griffin

Dear Mr. Adams:

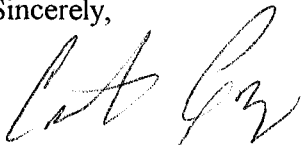
Pursuant to Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, please find enclosed herewith the following:

1. Original executed Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law for the above referenced attorney;
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
3. Original Order of Resignation for the Court's signature: and
4. Law License and Bar Card for the above referenced attorney.

Pursuant to Rule 10.02 of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, the required ten day time frame has passed and 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.

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

Sincerely,



Curtis Quigley  
Legal Assistant  
Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel  
State Bar of Texas

Enclosures

cc: George V. Griffin  
P.O. Box 121123  
Fort Worth, TX 76121-1123  
**CM,RRR 7000 1670 0011 9701 5920**

