

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SUPREME COURT**

**ORDER**

**LD-2010-0005, In the Matter of Thomas P. Grodt**

On March 31, 2010, the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) filed an assented-to petition for conditional stay of a three-year suspension from the practice of law of the respondent, Thomas P. Grodt. An order of notice was issued which required that the petition be served upon the respondent and that the respondent file an answer to the petition within 30 days of service. On May 19, 2010, the respondent filed an answer to the petition in which he admitted the allegations of the petition and assented to the relief requested. He also conditionally waived briefing and oral argument on the petition.

In the petition, the PCC alleged that the respondent violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct:

- (1) Rule 1.3, by failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing his clients;
- (2) Rule 1.4(a)-(c), by failing to forward important documents to his clients, including important pleadings, motions and orders, and by failing to explain to them the legal and practical aspects of their cases;
- (3) Rule 8.1(a), by making a false statement of material fact to the Attorney Discipline Office during its investigation of his conduct;
- (4) Rule 8.4(c), by making false statements to his clients about the mishandling of their cases; and
- (5) Rule 8.4(a), by violating the Rules of Professional Conduct.

The court accepts the PCC's findings and rulings as to the rules violations.

The PCC recommended that the respondent be suspended for a period of three years, and that the suspension be stayed for three years. The PCC recommended that the respondent be subject to stringent conditions on his practice of law during the stay. The conditions of the stay were agreed to by the respondent and Disciplinary Counsel and are set forth in the PCC's recommendation attached to the petition. The PCC's recommendation also sets forth the procedure to be followed if it is alleged that the respondent has violated the conditions of the stay. The court accepts the PCC's recommendation that the respondent be suspended for a period of three years, and that the suspension be stayed for three years on the condition that the respondent comply with the terms of the stay as set forth in the PCC's

recommendation and the parties' agreement.

THEREFORE, the court orders that Attorney Thomas P. Grodt be suspended from the practice of law in New Hampshire for a period of three years; imposition of this suspension is stayed, however, for a period of three years subject to Attorney Grodt's compliance with the conditions set forth in the PCC's recommendation.

If the PCC should impose any portion of Attorney Grodt's three-year suspension in the future, it shall notify the court.

Attorney Grodt is hereby assessed all expenses incurred by the Professional Conduct Committee in the investigation and prosecution of this matter. See Rule 37(19).

Broderick, C.J., and Dalianis, Duggan, Hicks and Conboy, JJ., concurred.

DATE: June 28, 2010

ATTEST:

  
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**Eileen Fox, Clerk**

Distribution:  
Professional Conduct Committee  
Margaret H. Nelson, Chair  
Jennifer B. Sargent, Esquire  
Thomas P. Grodt, Esquire  
Richard Y. Uchida, Esquire  
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File