

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**SUPREME COURT**

**ORDER**

**LD-2012-0012, In the Matter of Peter A. Lagorio**

On November 1, 2012, the Attorney Discipline Office filed a certified copy of the October 16, 2012 judgment of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County (Massachusetts), disbaring Attorney Peter Anthony Lagorio. A summary filed with the judgment states that Attorney Lagorio represented plaintiffs in class action lawsuits and collected settlement funds on their behalf. Attorney Lagorio intentionally misappropriated funds from the settlements and used the funds to pay obligations from earlier cases. His IOLTA account was determined to be short by approximately \$450,000. The judgment of disbarment issued by the Supreme Judicial Court indicates that the matter came before the court on an affidavit of resignation submitted by Attorney Lagorio, and the recommendation of the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers that the resignation be accepted.

Rule 37(12)(d) provides for the imposition of reciprocal discipline by the court unless the respondent attorney or the PCC demonstrates, or the court finds, based on the face of the record from which the discipline is predicated, that: (1) the procedure followed by the jurisdiction imposing discipline was so lacking in notice or opportunity to be heard as to constitute a deprivation of due process; (2) the imposition of the same or substantially similar discipline by the court would result in grave injustice; or (3) the misconduct established warrants substantially different discipline in New Hampshire. In accordance with this provision, the court issued an order providing Attorney Lagorio with the opportunity to show why the imposition of discipline identical or substantially similar to that imposed by the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County (Massachusetts) would be unwarranted. Attorney Lagorio filed no response to the order.


Having reviewed the order of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, the court does not find that any of the conditions set forth in Rule 37(12)(d) have been met. It appears from the order that Attorney Lagorio had an opportunity to be heard in the Massachusetts disciplinary proceedings and that he chose to submit his resignation rather than contest the charges against him. In light of the seriousness of Attorney Lagorio's misconduct, the court does not find that disbarment would result in grave injustice or that his misconduct would warrant substantially different discipline in New Hampshire.

Therefore, the court orders that Attorney Peter Anthony Lagorio be disbarred from the practice of law in New Hampshire. Attorney Lagorio is hereby assessed all expenses incurred by the Professional Conduct Committee in the investigation and prosecution of this matter. See Rule 37(19).

Dalianis, C.J., and Hicks, Conboy, Lynn, and Bassett, JJ., concurred.

DATE: January 30, 2013

ATTEST:

  
Eileen Fox, Clerk

Distribution:  
Professional Conduct Committee  
Peter A. Lagorio, Esq.  
Thomas V. Trevethick, Esq.  
File