



IN RE: CRAIG J. CAMERLIN

NO. BD-2009-101

S.J.C. Judgment of Disbarment entered by Justice Gants on October 2, 2013.¹

SUMMARY²

This matter came before the Supreme Judicial Court on the respondent's affidavit of resignation pursuant to S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 15. In his affidavit, the respondent acknowledged that the following facts were deemed admitted by the board.

In 2005, the respondent represented a client in reaching a settlement agreement with his business partner. By agreement dated July 11, 2005, the client relinquished all claims to the business in consideration of \$40,000. The former business partner agreed to make payments to the client according to the following schedule: \$6,000 paid on or before July 8, 2005; and thereafter, \$4,000 to be paid every six months between January 2006 and January 2010.

The respondent agreed with the client to open and maintain a trust account with the settlement proceeds for the benefit of the client and his children. The respondent negotiated at least eight checks for cash and used the funds for purposes unrelated to the client. On one check, the respondent fraudulently endorsed, or caused to be fraudulently endorsed, the client's signature on the check and made the funds payable to himself.

In late 2011, the client requested that the respondent provide him with his funds, copies of the account statements showing the deposit of the settlement funds, and an accounting. The respondent failed to reply and failed to provide the client with his funds, an accounting and any account statements.

¹ The complete Order of the Court is available by contacting the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County.

² Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record filed with the Supreme Judicial Court.

From at least July 2005, the respondent intentionally misused the client's trust funds for his own purposes, with intent to deprive at least temporarily and with actual deprivation resulting, in violation of Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15 (b) and (c) and Mass. R. Prof. C. 8.4 (c) and (h).

The respondent also failed to cooperate with bar counsel's investigation in violation of Mass. R. Prof. C. 8.4 (d), (g), and (h) and SJC Rule 4:01, § 3.

In aggravation, the respondent was suspended for a year and a day in 2010. Matter of Camerlin, 26 Mass. Att'y Disc. R. 65.

On September 23, 2013, the board voted to recommend that the affidavit of resignation be accepted as a disciplinary sanction.

On October 2, 2013, the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County accepted the respondent's affidavit of resignation and entered an order of disbarment, effective immediately.