



**IN RE: RICARDO M. BARROS**

**NO. BD-2012-121**

**S.J.C. Order of Term Suspension entered by Justice Cordy on January 23, 2013.<sup>1</sup>**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, SS.

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT  
FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY  
BD-2012-121

IN RE: RICARDO M. BARROS

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

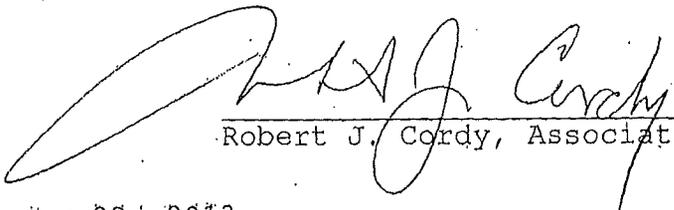
This matter is before me on an Information filed by the Board of Bar Overseers (board) recommending that respondent Ricardo M. Barros be suspended from the practice of law for six months and one day. The respondent objects to several of the board's findings, and urges the Court to impose a lesser sanction. Bar Counsel contends that the sanction imposed by the board is too lenient, and argues that the sanction recommended by the Hearing Committee, a suspension of one year and one day, is more in line with prior discipline.

After reviewing the record before the board, and after hearing from counsel, I conclude that the board's conclusions that the respondent: (1) employed a lawyer as a "bankruptcy specialist" who, because of the lawyer's disciplinary status, the respondent knew was prevented from practicing law, and, further, assisted the (disbarred) lawyer in the unauthorized practice of law; (2) knowingly failed to appear for court proceedings involving debts owed by his professional corporation resulting in the issuance of capiases; and (3) wilfully misrepresented in his letterhead and on his website the nature and size of his law

office, are fully supported.

With respect to the appropriate sanction, the board considered the limited duration of the respondent's employment of the disbarred lawyer, and other circumstances that it concluded were not as egregious as those in Matter of Hrones, 457 Mass. 844, 26 Mass. Att'y Discipline Rep. 252 (2010). Its recommendation is both reasoned and within a range of reasonableness entitling it to "great weight." Matter of Murray, 455 Mass. 872, 879 (2010). Consequently, although a somewhat greater sanction might also have been reasonable and supported, I accept the board's recommendation and impose a suspension of six months and one day.

So ordered.



Robert J. Cordy, Associate Justice

Date Entered: January 23, 2013