IN RE: DANNY CHUM

NO. BD-2013-070

S.J.C. Order of Term Suspension entered by Justice Cordy on July 8, 2013, with an effective date of August 7, 2013.[1]

SUMMARY[2]

The respondent, Danny Chum, is an attorney duly admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth on June 28, 1994.

From October 2010 through June 28, 2012, the respondent was employed as an associate attorney in a small law firm. On the afternoon of Friday, June 8, 2012, a client of the firm made a $600 cash fee payment consisting of six one hundred dollar bills. The respondent's employer placed the cash in a bag in which he customarily kept petty cash. Within the next three days, without the knowledge or consent of the employer, the respondent removed $500 from the petty cash bag.

Soon thereafter, the employer discovered that funds were missing and questioned the respondent, who admitted that he had taken the $500, as well as an additional $1000 in cash from the bag. The respondent agreed not to take money from the bag again and agreed to pay the employer $300 per month until the money was repaid in full.

Two weeks later, again without the knowledge or consent of the employer, the respondent removed an additional $2,000 from the petty cash bag.

By removing a total of $3,500 in cash from the office petty cash bag without the knowledge or consent of his employer, the respondent converted $3,500 of his employer's funds.

The respondent's conversion of his employer's funds to his own use violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 8.4(c) and (h).

In mitigation, the respondent made full restitution to the employer.

The parties stipulated to the facts and rule violations set forth above and agreed to a suspension from the practice of law for eighteen months. On June 24, 2013, the Board of Bar Overseers voted to accept the parties' stipulation and recommendation for discipline.

The matter came before the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County on an information filed by the board, pursuant to S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 8.4. On July 8, 2013, the Court entered an order suspending the respondent for a period of eighteen months, effective thirty days after entry.

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[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.