



Public Reprimand No. 2011-11

Order (public reprimand) entered by the Board on May 25, 2011.

SUMMARY¹

The respondent was admitted to the bar in Massachusetts on December 18, 1981. At all relevant times, he practiced as bond and underwriting counsel in the Boston office of a national law firm.

The respondent failed to pay to the Board of Bar Overseers his annual registration fee that was due to be paid in March of 2007. Thereafter, the Board of Bar Overseers sent the respondent notices on April 16, 2007, July 31, 2007 and September 21, 2007, concerning his failure to pay his annual registration fee. Throughout 2007, the respondent traveled frequently among the firm's various offices on business and out of state on family matters and was unaware of the notices sent to his firm address. The respondent had also moved from his residential address; however he did not provide the Board with his new residential address. The notices sent by the Board to his previous residential address were not forwarded to the new residential address by the postal service.

On October 25, 2007, the respondent was administratively suspended by the Supreme Judicial Court due to his failure to register and pay the required annual registration fee. The respondent was unaware of his administrative suspension and continued to practice law with the firm. He did not seek reinstatement within thirty days of the entry of the order of administrative suspension, therefore becoming subject to the notice and compliance provisions of S.J.C. Rule 4:01, § 17(1), (5) and (6). The respondent did not comply with these rules.

The respondent learned of his administrative suspension in early 2010 and promptly sought readmission to practice. He was reinstated to practice on March 23, 2010.

By failing to provide the Board of Bar Overseers accurate and current address information, the respondent violated S.J.C. Rule 4:01, §1.

By failing to file a timely affidavit of compliance, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 8.4(d) and S.J.C. Rule 4:01, §(5) and (6).

By practicing law after his administrative suspension, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 5.5(a).

The matter came before the Board of Bar Overseers on a stipulation of the parties and a joint agreement to recommend discipline in the form of a public reprimand. On May 9, 2011, the Board of Bar Overseers voted to administer a public reprimand to the respondent.

¹ Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record of proceedings before the Board.