

**ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND**

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ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
410-260-3650

KENDALL R. RUFFATTO, ESQUIRE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

December 22, 2009

Charles E. Walton, Esquire
10905 Ft. Washington Road, Suite 201
Ft. Washington, MD 20744

RE: Panel No. 011-10
BC Docket No. 2009-276-17-3
Pamela Whitley

Dear Mr. Walton:

The Attorney Grievance Commission, at its meeting on December 16, 2009, approved the proposed Reprimand agreed upon by you and Bar Counsel and directed that Bar Counsel administer this letter of reprimand to you.

Pursuant to Maryland Rule 16-737, you are hereby reprimanded as follows:

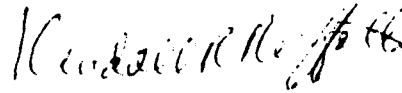
From on or about January 1, 2008, the Respondent was engaged to represent the Simmons Acres Homeowner's Association, Inc. (hereafter "the HOA"). On or about January 14, 2008, a dispute arose among the members of the HOA's Board of Directors. On or about February 8, 2008, Respondent and co-counsel, Ronald C. Hill, Esquire, represented two individual members of the HOA's Board of Directors as plaintiffs in a civil action in which the HOA was named by Respondent and co-counsel as a defendant. Respondent thereby represented two clients in a matter that was directly adverse to another client. Respondent did not obtain or attempt to obtain the clients' informed consent, confirmed in writing.

At the time of the filing of the lawsuit, Respondent intended to represent and sue on behalf of the approximately 300 homeowners of Simmons Acres, however, the Respondent did not name the homeowners as plaintiffs in the action. At the time of the filing of the lawsuit, Respondent intended to have the court resolve the Board Members' dispute, however, he did not include a request for that relief in the complaint. With regard to the complaint filed on February 8, 2008, Respondent failed to demonstrate the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation necessary for the representation of the HOA and the other clients.

The conduct described above was prejudicial to the administration of justice in that it was conduct likely to reflect negatively on the image of the legal profession. The conduct described above violated Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, 1.7 and 8.4(d).

The Maryland Rules provide that a reprimand constitutes discipline which is public and open to inspection. The Commission will be providing a copy of this letter to the Complainant.

Very truly yours,



Kendall R. Ruffatto
Executive Secretary

KRR:jfc

cc: Dolores O. Ridgell, Esquire

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED