

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**



In the Matter of: :

Kenneth L. Blackwell, Esquire : **Bar Docket No. 2016-D396**

Respondent :

Bar Registration No. 441413 :

Date of Admission: April 1, 1994 :

**RESPONDENT’S ANSWER TO SPECIFICATION
OF CHARGES** ¹

1. Admitted.
2. Admitted.
3. Respondent admits that he and Ms. Allen were engaged in a child custody matter in the Prince William County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, where the parties were granted *joint legal custody with primary residence* with Ms. Allen and during this time Respondent lived in Maryland. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the remainder of the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands proof thereof.
4. Admitted.
5. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph and demands proof thereof.

¹ Respondent’s Answers are qualified and limited to his access and ability to obtain relevant court and agency documents in light of the present coronavirus emergency.

6. Admitted.
7. Admitted.
8. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph.
9. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph.
10. Respondent *denies* that on December 9, 2009, the Prince William County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court *legally* found Respondent guilty of civil contempt under Va. Code Ann. § 16.1-278.16 (2019) for failure to comply with the *Maryland* support obligation, but admits the court sentenced him to 90 days in jail with a \$3,000 purge clause and a \$16,500 appeal bond in violation of Respondent's due process rights guaranteed by the laws of Virginia, Maryland and the U.S. Constitution.
11. Respondent admits on or about December 14, 2009, he was released from jail but *denies* "Respondent paid \$3,000" to purge the civil contempt. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the remainder of this paragraph.
12. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny that he made a "second payment on March 23, 2010", and *denies* that he "made no more support payments."
13. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph but admits "no contempt motion was filed".
14. Respondent admits he appeared in the Circuit Court for Prince Georges County,

Maryland on May 26, 2010 for a contempt hearing and the matter was continued.

Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the remaining allegations in this paragraph and demands strict proof.

15. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations contained in this paragraph.

16. Denied.

17. Denied.

18. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph.

19. Admitted.

20. Denied.

21. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.

22. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.

23. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such *denies* the same.

24. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.

25. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such *denies* the same.

26. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such *denies* the same.

27. Respondent *denies* that “[after November 7, 2014 he] did not make any payments toward his child support obligation” but admits he did not “move to modify the child support order” “thereafter”.
28. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.
29. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph.
30. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.
31. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such *denies* the same. Respondent specifically *denies* that he “falsely stated” anything as alleged, and demands strict proof thereof.
32. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.
33. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof. Respondent *denies* that “[he] has not made any payments”.
34. Respondent is without sufficient information or belief to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph; but admits to receiving a copy of a complaint from Disciplinary Counsel.
35. Admitted.
36. Admitted.
37. Admitted.

38. Respondent *denies* the amount of arrears stated in this paragraph, and is without sufficient information and belief to admit or deny the remaining allegations in this paragraph, and as such demands strict proof.

39. Denied.

- a. Denied
- b. Denied
- c. Denied

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/Kenneth L. Blackwell, Esq.

Kenneth L. Blackwell, Esquire
470 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
No. 23610
Washington, D.C. 20026
(202) 903-4852
kennethblackwell@justice.com
Respondent, *Pro Se*

Dated: June 15, 2020

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the forgoing *Respondent's Answer to Specification of Charges* was filed via email to casemanager@dcbpr.org and Jelani Lowery, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, LoweryJ@dcodc.org and four (4) copies mailed this 15th day of June to:

Office of Executive Attorney
430 E Street, N.W.
Suite 138
Washington, D.C. 20001

And a copy mailed to:

Office of Disciplinary Counsel
515 5th Street, N.W.
Building A, Room 117
Washington, D.C. 20001

/s/Kenneth L. Blackwell, Esq.
