

The Supreme Court of Ohio

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ON CHARACTER AND FITNESS OF

THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

11-1663

In re: Application of
Christopher Stanley Christman Webber

Case No. 497

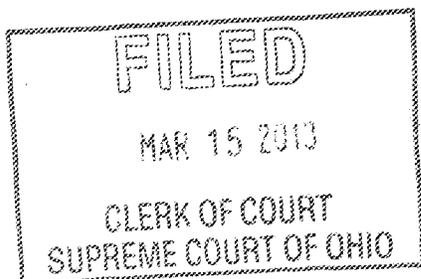
FINDINGS OF FACT AND
RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS ON CHARACTER AND
FITNESS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF
OHIO

This matter is before the board pursuant the Court's April 10, 2012, order to remand the case to the board for investigation of apparent inconsistencies between the record evidence in this case and the information provided in the corporate questionnaire that applicant submitted to the Office of Attorney Services with his September 2011 certificate of registration for corporate status.

Pursuant to the Court's order, the panel chair of the appointed panel of three Commissioners on Character and Fitness that heard testimony and received evidence in the case attempted to contact the applicant and further investigate the concerns of the Court. The applicant did not respond to telephone messages, electronic mail messages, or correspondence sent by certified mail. The panel filed its report with the board on January 29, 2013.

Pursuant to Gov. Bar R. I, Sec. 12(D), the board considered this matter on February 8, 2013. By unanimous vote, the board adopts the panel report as attached, including its findings of fact and recommendation of disapproval.

Therefore, the Board of Commissioners on Character and Fitness recommends that the applicant not be approved for admission to the Ohio bar, and that his registration for corporate status in Ohio be terminated.

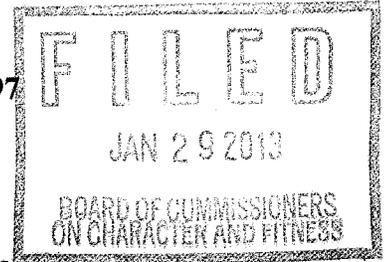


TODD HICKS, Chair, Board of Commissioners
on Character and Fitness for the Supreme Court
of Ohio

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON
CHARACTER AND FITNESS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO**

**IN RE APPLICATION OF CHRISTOPHER STANLEY
CHRISTMAN WEBBER**

CASE No. 497



PANEL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

By an Order dated April 10, 2012, the Supreme Court of Ohio remanded this matter back to the Board of Commissioners to investigate “the apparent inconsistencies between the record evidence in the case and the information provided in the corporate questionnaire that Webber submitted to the Office of Attorney Services with his September 2011 certificate of registration for corporate status, including but not limited to questions seven and eight of that document.”¹

In compliance with this remand, the chair of the panel thereafter undertook efforts to contact Mr. Webber for the purpose of scheduling a hearing on the issues raised by the Supreme Court. To this end e-mails were sent to Mr. Webber on June 25, June 29, and September 10, 2012. Mr. Webber did not respond to any of these e-mails. Telephone calls were then placed to the numbers, as set forth in his application, for his place of employment and his cell phone. Although voicemails were left for each of these calls, Mr. Webber again did not respond. Thereafter, the panel chair through the Office of Bar Admissions sent correspondence by regular and by certified mail to Mr. Webber at the address in Ohio designated in his application and then to an address in Michigan he had provided to the Office of Attorney Services. The certified copies of these letters were either refused or were returned to the Office

¹ The matter was referred by the Board to the panel that heard Mr. Webber original case.

of Bar Admissions with a notation that the letter was unclaimed, not deliverable, or refused. Mr. Webber was also sent a letter at the Michigan address by the Office of Attorney Services. Once more he did not respond to this letter.

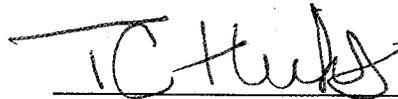
In short, Mr. Webber has failed to respond to all attempts — by telephone, e-mail and letter — to contact him.

Recommendation

Rule I, Section 12(C)(6) provides that the failure of an applicant to cooperate in proceedings before the Board may be grounds for disapproving the applicant. Moreover, an applicant bears the burden of establishing his character, fitness and moral qualifications by clear and convincing evidence. In light of the numerous attempts to reach Mr. Webber at telephone numbers and addresses listed in his application,² to all of which he failed to respond, the panel concludes that he has failed to cooperate in proceedings before the Board. This failure of cooperation stymies the Board from its efforts to carry out the investigation ordered by the Supreme Court, and it further most certainly means that Mr. Webber has not met his burden of proof. For these reasons, the panel recommends that Mr. Webber not be approved for admission to the bar of the State of Ohio. The panel further recommends that the Board recommend to the Supreme Court that Mr. Webber's registration for corporate status in the State of Ohio be terminated.



G. Scott McBride, Panel Member



Todd C. Hicks, Panel Member

² An applicant is required to keep his contact information current and accurate with the Office of Bar Admissions.

Suzanne K. Richards
Suzanne K. Richards, Panel Chair