

The Supreme Court of Ohio

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

65 SOUTH FRONT STREET, COLUMBUS, OH 43215-3431

CHIEF JUSTICE
MAUREEN O'CONNOR

CLERK OF THE COURT
SANDRA H. GROSKO

FILED

JUSTICES
PAUL E. PFEIFER
TERRENCE O'DONNELL
JUDITH ANN LANZINGER
SHARON L. KENNEDY
JUDITH L. FRENCH
WILLIAM M. O'NEILL

APR 10 2015

TELEPHONE 614.387.9530
FACSIMILE 614.387.9539
www.supremecourt.ohio.gov

CLERK OF COURT
SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Sterling E. Gill II
1360 Somersworth Court
Columbus, Ohio 43219

Re: *Columbus Bar Association v. Sterling Everard Gill II*,
Case No. 2012-2069

Dear Mr. Gill:

On October 24, 2013, the court suspended you from the practice of law for a period of two years, with the second year stayed on condition. The court further ordered that in applying for reinstatement pursuant to former Gov.Bar R. V(10), you must file proof that you (1) have established a client trust account (IOLTA), (2) have completed 12 hours of continuing legal education on law-office management in addition to the requirements of former Gov.Bar R. X(3)(G), at least six hours of which shall be focused on the proper use and maintenance of his trust account, (3) have complied with all of the terms of your Ohio Lawyers Assistance Program contract and have followed all of OLAP's treatment recommendations, including (a) contract renewal (if applicable), (b) attendance at a specified number of AA meetings each week, (c) maintenance of an AA sponsor, (d) random drug testing, and (e) continued treatment for your addiction and bipolar mood disorder by a qualified mental-health provider, (4) have not committed any further misconduct, and (5) have verification from a qualified medical professional that to a reasonable degree of medical certainty you are fit to return to the competent, ethical, and professional practice of law.

On March 11, 2015, you filed an application for reinstatement. The Supreme Court of Ohio has informed the clerk's office that it will not consider an application for reinstatement until the attorney has complied with the court's orders and Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio.

First, in its October 24, 2013 order, the court ordered you to file an affidavit of compliance with the court within 30 days from the date of the order. You failed to file an affidavit of compliance. The court will not consider your application for reinstatement until you have filed an affidavit of compliance. For your convenience, a copy of the suspension order is enclosed.

Please be advised that Rule 3.02(D) of the Rules of Practice of the Supreme Court of Ohio prohibits the clerk from filing documents after a filing deadline imposed by court order. If you immediately attempt to file your affidavit, it will be rejected as untimely. In order for you to file this item, you must wait for the court to put on a show cause order. You can then file your affidavit of compliance in response to the show cause order.

Second, the court also ordered you to pay the costs of the proceedings in the amount of \$4,750.79 plus interest. The court also ordered you to pay publication costs in the amount of \$349.41 plus interest. On November 7, 2014, your claim was certified to the Office of the Attorney General for collection of the board costs, publication costs, and interest due. While you have entered into a payment plan with the Office of the Attorney General, your board costs, publication costs, and interest due have not been paid in full. The suspension order states that "respondent may not apply for reinstatement until costs and all accrued interest are paid in full." You may contact the Office of the Attorney General at 888-246-0688 in order to make payment in full.

Third, the court's suspension order required you to comply with the CLE requirements for suspended attorneys as set forth in former Gov.Bar R. X(3)(G). That rule required you to complete one credit hour of continuing legal education for each month, or portion of a month, of suspension. As part of those hours, you were required to complete one credit hour related to professional conduct for each six months, or portion of six months, of the suspension. Because you were suspended on October 24, 2013, when you filed your application for reinstatement on March 11, 2015, you needed to have completed a total of 17 hours of CLE, including 3 hours for instruction in professional conduct. In addition to the requirements of former Gov.Bar R. X(3)(G), the court also ordered you to complete an additional 12 hours of continuing legal education on law-office management, at least six hours of which shall be focused on the proper use and maintenance of your trust account. Thus, you are required to have completed a total of 29 CLE hours in order to be reinstated.

The attached letter and CLE transcript from the Office of Attorney Services indicates that since October 24, 2013, you have reported completing 24.25 CLE hours, which includes 17.75 hour related to professional conduct. In addition, it does not appear that you have completed 12 CLE hours on law-office management, at least six hours of which shall be focused on the proper use and maintenance of your trust account. If you believe the information provided by the Office of Attorney Services is inaccurate, please contact that office to resolve the matter.

Fourth, the court also ordered you to reimburse any amounts that have been awarded against you by the Clients' Security Fund pursuant to Gov.Bar R. VIII(7)(F). The Client Security Fund has been renamed the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. The Fund has advised the clerk's office of at least one award against you in the amount of \$4,700.00. You can contact the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection at 614-387-9390 in order to make arrangements to pay the restitution that you owe.

You may file additional documentation to support your compliance with the court's order and the Rules for the Government of the Bar. Note that all documents filed with the court in this case must meet the filing requirements set forth in the Rules of Practice of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Please contact me at (614)387-9541 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa M. Ferguson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa M. Ferguson
Case Management Counsel

Enclosures