In the Indiana Supreme Court

In the Matter of: Cody R. Williams, Respondent

Supreme Court Case No. 21S-DI-275



Published Order Approving Statement of Circumstances and Conditional Agreement for Discipline

Pursuant to Indiana Admission and Discipline Rule 23(12.1)(b), the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission and Respondent have submitted for approval a "Statement of Circumstances and Conditional Agreement for Discipline" stipulating agreed facts and proposed discipline as summarized below.

Stipulated Facts: On October 22, 2019, Respondent pled guilty to Possession of a Legend Drug, a level 6 felony, Driving While Suspended with a Prior Judgment, a class A misdemeanor, and Operating Without Financial Responsibility, an infraction. Sentencing was deferred so Respondent could participate in a veterans court treatment program. After Respondent successfully completed that program in April 2021, the trial court sentenced Respondent, entering his possession conviction as a class A misdemeanor.

Respondent has been under an order of interim suspension in this matter since July 19, 2021. Respondent also currently is under orders of indefinite suspension for noncooperation and suspension without automatic reinstatement for prior discipline.

Violation: The parties agree that Respondent violated Indiana Professional Conduct Rule 8.4(b), which prohibits committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer.

Discipline: The parties propose the appropriate discipline is a one-year suspension without automatic reinstatement. The Court, having considered the submissions of the parties, now approves the agreed discipline.

For Respondent's professional misconduct, the Court suspends Respondent from the practice of law in this state for a period of not less than one year, without automatic reinstatement, effective immediately. At the conclusion of the minimum period of suspension, Respondent may petition this Court for reinstatement to the practice of law in this state, provided Respondent pays the costs of this proceeding, fulfills the duties of a suspended attorney, and satisfies the requirements for reinstatement of Admission and Discipline Rule 23(18). Reinstatement is discretionary and requires clear and convincing evidence of the attorney's remorse, rehabilitation, and fitness to practice law. *See* Admis. Disc. R. 23(18)(b).

The costs of this proceeding are assessed against Respondent. Pursuant to the parties' stipulation, the Court hereby orders Respondent to pay \$265.18 by check made payable and transmitted to the Clerk of the Indiana Supreme Court. Upon receipt, the Clerk is directed to disburse those funds as follows: (1) \$15.18, payable to the Commission as reimbursement for investigative expenses incurred; and (2) \$250.00, payable to the Clerk for court costs. The expenses of the hearing officer will be submitted separately.

With the acceptance of this agreement, the hearing officer appointed in this case is discharged with the Court's appreciation.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 4/21/2022

Loretta H. Rush

Chief Justice of Indiana

All Justices concur.