

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

In the Matter of:

THOMAS ALEXANDER KANTAS,

Movant,

No. 6272492.

Supreme Court No. M.R.

Commission No. 2023PR00030

MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a)

Movant, Thomas Alexander Kantas, respectfully represents to the Court that:

1. Movant was licensed to practice law in Illinois on November 9, 2000.
2. Movant desires to have his name stricken from the Roll of Attorneys pursuant to

Rule 762(a), effective immediately.

3. Filed contemporaneously with this motion are a statement of charges prepared by the Administrator and Movant's affidavit in support of this motion.

WHEREFORE, Movant respectfully requests that the Court enter an order striking his name from the Roll of Attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Alexander Kantas

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May 22, 2023

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**ARDC CLERK**STATEMENT OF CHARGES  
PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a)

Jerome Larkin, Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, by his attorney, Rory Patrick Quinn, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 762(a), states that on the date Movant Thomas Alexander Kantas filed a motion requesting that his name be stricken from the Roll of Attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois, the Administrator was investigating allegations that Movant engaged in a scheme to mislead five clients regarding the status of their matters by making false statements to his clients, creating false settlement negotiation communications, pleadings and court orders, and, as a result of making a false statement to the court in one matter, being held in direct criminal contempt of court. Had that conduct been the subject of a hearing, the Administrator would have introduced the evidence described below, and that evidence would have clearly and convincingly established the conclusions of misconduct described below.

## I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Movant's admissions, records from various courts, and the testimony of other witnesses would have established the following facts:

A. *False Statements, False Documents, and False Orders - Babich Matters*

1. Prior to February 23, 2017, Movant agreed to represent Matthew Babich ("Babich") in a personal injury claim against Steban Maldonado related to a motor vehicle collision. On February 23, 2017, Movant filed a complaint against Maldonado in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

2. Prior to December 17, 2018, Movant agreed to represent Babich in a separate personal injury claim against M & M Construction. On December 17, 2018, Movant filed a complaint against M & M Construction in the Circuit Court of Cook County. On January 18, 2022, the court set *Babich v. M & M* for trial on February 8, 2022. Movant failed to inform Babich his matter was set for trial. On February 8, 2022, Babich failed to appear for trial. On February 15, 2022, the court dismissed *Babich v. M & M* for want of prosecution due to Babich's failure to appear. On June 2, 2022, the court ordered Babich to appear for his deposition by August 4, 2022. Movant did not inform Babich he was ordered to appear for his deposition. On August 4, 2022, the court dismissed the *Maldonado* matter for want of prosecution due to Babich's failure to appear for his deposition.

3. Movant did not inform Babich that the *M & M* and *Maldonado* matters had been dismissed for want of prosecution. Rather, Movant falsely told Babich that the courts had issued a judgment in his favor, and the defendants had appealed the matter. Movant created a series of false circuit court orders, forged court-entered stamps, created false documents, and created false appellate court case pleadings and orders. Movant sent these false documents to Babich in order to mislead him about the status of the matter. Movant also asked Babich to meet him in downtown Chicago and had Babich wait several hours on several occasions to collect the non-existent settlement funds that movant had falsely told Babich would be available.

B. *False Statements, False Documents, and False Orders - Wilkey Matter*

4. Prior to June 11, 2019, Movant agreed to represent Kenneth Wilkey ("Wilkey") in personal injury and property damage claims against Northern Illinois Gas Company ("NICOR") related to a gas explosion at Wilkey's property. Movant later filed a complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

5. On September 30, 2022, the *NICOR* Matter was dismissed due to lack of activity. Movant did not inform Wilkey that the *NICOR* Matter had been dismissed. Rather, Movant falsely told Wilkey that the court had issued a \$25,000,000 judgment in his favor, and that the defendant had appealed the award. Movant created false circuit court orders, forged court-entered stamps, created false documents and created a false appellate court case. Movant sent these false documents to Wilkey in order to mislead him about the status of his matter.

C. *False Statements, False Documents, False Orders, and Direct Criminal Contempt - Giokas Matter*

6. Prior to June 19, 2019, Movant agreed to represent Nick Giokas (“Giokas”) as administrator of the estate of Angeline Giokas in a medical malpractice claim against Advocate Christ Medical Center (“Advocate”) related to Angeline Giokas’s death. Movant filed a complaint against Advocate and others in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

7. At no time did Movant effectuate service on Advocate. While the *Advocate* matter was still pending, Movant falsely stated to Giokas that the court had granted summary judgment in his favor in the amount of \$6,000,000. Additionally, Movant falsely told Giokas that the court had granted sanctions against opposing counsel for Advocate totaling several hundred thousand dollars. In furtherance of these false statements, Movant created false circuit court orders, forged court-entered stamps, created false documents, and fabricated a false email message from the Cook County Clerk’s Office, and he sent these documents to Giokas.

8. On October 26, 2022, the *Advocate* matter was before the Honorable Mary Kathleen McHugh. Movant and Giokas appeared at a hearing. During that hearing, Movant falsely claimed to Judge McHugh he had secured a default judgment and offered to go to his office and bring a copy of the order to the court. On October 27, 2022, Movant again appeared in court and admitted to Judge McHugh that he had never secured a judgment in the *Advocate* matter. On

December 12, 2022, Judge McHugh held Movant in direct criminal contempt for his false statements to the court on October 26, 2022.

D. *False Statements, False Documents, and False Orders - Nespeca Matter*

9. Prior to November 25, 2020, Movant agreed to represent Kathie Jo Nespeca (“Nespeca”) in a personal injury claim against Speedway LCC. Movant later filed a complaint against Speedway in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

10. At no time prior to February 16, 2023, did Movant effectuate service on Speedway. Prior to service on Speedway, Movant falsely stated to Nespeca that the court had granted summary judgment in her favor the amount of \$7,395,000. Additionally, Movant falsely stated to Nespeca that the court had taken several individuals into custody due to their interference with delivering the settlement proceeds to Nespeca. In furtherance of these false statements, Movant created and sent to Nespeca false circuit court orders, forged court-entered stamps, and created false documents.

E. *False Statements - Stefos Matter*

11. Prior to August 2019, Movant agreed to represent Stefania Stefos (“Stefos”) in a premises liability claim against Peter Papoutsis. Movant later filed a complaint in the Circuit Court of Will County.

12. While the *Stefos* matter was still pending, Movant falsely told Stefos that the court had conducted a pretrial settlement conference, and the court had recommended a policy limits settlement. On September 14, 2022, the *Stefos* matter was dismissed for want of prosecution due to Movant’s failure to appear.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF MISCONDUCT

8. By reason of the conduct described above, Movant has engaged in the following misconduct:

- a. failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client by conduct including failing to inform Babich about the court orders requiring his appearance, failing to serve Speedway, failing to serve Advocate, and failing to appear in the Stefos matter resulting in the dismissal of the claims of Babich, Giokas, Nespeca, and Stefos in violation of Rule 1.3 of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010);
- b. failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter, by conduct including not informing Babich and Wilkey that their matters had been dismissed and falsely claiming to Babich, Wilkey, Giokas, and Nespeca that their claims had resulted in substantial recoveries, in violation of Rule 1.4(a)(4) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010);
- c. committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects, by committing the criminal act of direct criminal contempt of court by conduct including making false statements about a previous court order to the Honorable Judge McHugh on October 26, 2022, in violation of 8.4(b) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010); and
- d. conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, by making false statements, creating false documents and forging court stamps, in violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010).

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Larkin, Administrator  
Attorney Registration and  
Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Rory P. Quinn  
Rory P. Quinn

Rory P. Quinn  
Counsel for the Administrator  
130 East Randolph Drive, Suite 1500  
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Commission No.

AFFIDAVIT

Affiant, Thomas Alexander Kantas, being first duly sworn, states:

1. Affiant has filed with this Court a motion to strike his name from the Roll of Attorneys licensed to practice law in Illinois, pursuant to Rule 762(a).

2. Affiant has received and reviewed a copy of the Administrator's statement of the charges that were pending against Affiant as of the filing of the instant motion. If the case proceeded to a hearing, the Administrator would present the evidence described in the statement of charges, and that evidence would clearly and convincingly establish the facts and conclusions of misconduct set forth in the statement of charges.

3. Affiant's motion is freely and voluntarily made.

4. Affiant understands the nature and consequences of this motion.

5. Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

DATED: May 16, 2023

/s/ Thomas Alexander Kantas  
Thomas Alexander Kantas

Thomas Alexander Kantas  
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NOTICE OF FILING

TO: Thomas Alexander Kantas  
Attorney-Movant  
7808 West College Drive, Suite 4SE  
Palos Heights, IL 60463  
(708) 328-3644  
Email: [tkantas@kantaslaw.com](mailto:tkantas@kantaslaw.com)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 22, 2023, electronic copies of Movant's MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a), Administrator's STATEMENT OF CHARGES, and Movant's AFFIDAVIT, were submitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court for filing. On that same date, copies were served on Movant, by e-mail to his counsel at [tkantas@kantaslaw.com](mailto:tkantas@kantaslaw.com), at or before 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Larkin, Administrator  
Attorney Registration and  
Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Rory P. Quinn  
Rory P. Quinn

Rory P. Quinn  
Counsel for the Administrator  
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PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an attorney, hereby certifies, pursuant to the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/109, that the Administrator served copies of the Notice of Filing, Movant's MOTION PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a), Administrator's STATEMENT OF CHARGES PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 762(a) and Movant's AFFIDAVIT, on the individual listed on the forgoing Notice of Filing, by e-mail at [tkantas@kantaslaw.com](mailto:tkantas@kantaslaw.com), on May 22, 2023 at or before 5:00 p.m.

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

/s/ Rory P. Quinn  
Rory P. Quinn

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