BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY REGISTRATION AND DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
JASON PAUL YOUNG,) Commission No) 2024-PR-00036
Attorney-Respondent,) 2024-PN-00030)
No. 6279522)

NOTICE OF FILING

TO: Rachel Miller

Counsel for the Administrator

Email: ARDCeService@iardc.org; rmiller@iardc.org

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 16, 2024, I will submit the attached <u>ANSWER TO COMPLAINT</u> and this notice to the Clerk of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, One Prudential Plaza, 130 East Randolph, Suite 1500, Chicago, Illinois 60601, for filing by electronic means through Odyssey eFileIL system.

/s Jason P Goung Respondent

Jason P. Young (#6279522) 3717 Kerry Blvd Springfield, IL 62712 217-494-2988 jasonyounglawoffice@gmail.com

> FILED 7/16/2024 11:12 AM ARDC Clerk

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Jason P. Young, state that I served copies of this Notice of Filing and the attached Answer to Complaint on Counsel for the Administrator by emailing true and correct copies thereof to her at the email addresses shown on the face of this Notice of Filing on this 16th day of July 2024. Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/1-109, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct.

/s Jason P Goung
Respondent

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In the Matter of:)
JASON PAUL YOUNG,) Commission No) 2024-PR-00036
Attorney-Respondent,) 2024-FR-00030)
No. 6279522)

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT

NOW COMES the Respondent, Jason P. Young, pursuant to Commission Rule 231, for his answer to the Complaint filed against him in this cause by the Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, LEA S. GUTIERREZ, states as follows:

Respondent's Professional Background

- 1. Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Illinois on May 8, 2003. Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Michigan in 2002. Respondent allowed his license to practice law in the State of Michigan to lapse as he had no intentions on practicing in the State of Michigan. Respondent is licensed to practice under his present name before the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois and United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois.
 - 2. Respondent does not have any other professional license or certificate.

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COUNT I

(Dishonesty in Employment at the Illinois Attorney General's Office)

 Prior to February 3, 2020, Respondent operated Jason Young Law Office as a sole practitioner. He practiced primarily in the areas of domestic relations and criminal defense.

ANSWER: Respondent admits prior to February 3, 2020, he operated Jason Young Law Office as a solo practitioner as set forth in Paragraph 1 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint. However, Respondent states that he practiced primarily in the areas of domestic relations and personal injury.

2. On February 3, 2020, Respondent began working in a full-time position as an Assistant Attorney General in the Child Support Enforcement Bureau in Springfield.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 2 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

3. At all times related to this complaint, the Illinois Attorney General policy and procedures manual, section 8.1.7, stated that, "Assistant Attorneys General shall not engage in the private practice of law." Section 4.1.10(b)(2)(D) of the Illinois Attorney General policy and procedures manual further stated that, "An employee may not engage in any paid or non-paid employment outside the office which may create an actual conflict of interest or an appearance of conflict of interest. An employee may not use office time, equipment, resources, or personnel in any outside paid or non-paid employment."

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 3 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

4. Between February 10, 2022, and June 8, 2023, Respondent appeared in Morgan County on behalf of his wife, attorney Salena Young ("S. Young"), in juvenile abuse and neglect matters for which S. Young had been appointed. Respondent appeared in Morgan County in S. Young's juvenile abuse and neglect cases on at least 18 separate days.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 4 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

5. At no time when appearing in court for S. Young in Morgan County did Respondent use benefit time or reflect on his timekeeping log that he was not engaged in work for the Illinois Attorney General.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 5 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

6. On at least 18 occasions, Respondent submitted timekeeping records which showed he clocked in and worked for the Illinois Attorney General's Office when he was actually appearing in Morgan County on S. Young's matters.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 6 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

7. Respondent's timekeeping logs reflecting that he worked full days for the Illinois Attorney General's office on the 18 occasions described in paragraph four through six, above, was false, because he appeared in Morgan County for at least a portion of the day.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 7 of Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

8. Respondent knew at the time that he submitted the timekeeping logs to the

Illinois Attorney General's office reflecting that he was clocked in and working for the

Illinois Attorney General, as described in paragraphs four through six, above, that the

timekeeping logs were false.

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 8 of

Count I of the Administrator's Complaint.

9. By reason of the conduct described above, Respondent has engaged in

the following misconduct:

a. engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud,

deceit, or misrepresentation, by conduct including knowingly

submitting false timesheets to the Illinois Attorney General's

office, as described in paragraphs four through six, above, in

violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional

Conduct (2010).

ANSWER: Respondent admits the allegation as set forth in Paragraph 9 of Count

I of the Administrator's Complaint.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason P. Young, Respondent

/s Jason P Goung

Jason P. Young (ARDC No. 6279522)

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