

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

In the Matter of:	)	
	)	
FRANK AVILA,	)	
	)	Commission No. 2026PR00022
Illinois ARDC No. 6273730	)	
Attorney-Respondent.	)	

AMENDED ANSWER

NOW COMES, THE ATTORNEY-RESPONDENT, FRANK AVILA, by
and with and through, **HIMSELF**, and hereby files this **Amended Answer to
Count 1 of Commission No. 2026PR00022**. In support of this Amended Answer,
the Attorney-Respondent states as follows:

AMENDED ANSWER TO COUNT 1

1. ADMIT based on information and belief.
2. ADMIT based on a review of the record and on information and belief.
3. ADMIT
4. There was not electronic filing in Cook County at that time. Objection to
Allegation Number 4 as not relevant, misleading, and makes false
assumptions.

FILED
8/19/2026 10:14 PM
ARDC Clerk

5. ADMIT. The Response was filed and served but a Certificate of Service does not appear to be attached. However, this file is over ten years, and the Circuit Court files are not always correct.
6. ADMIT.
7. ADMIT. A Motion to Reconsider was already filed by the Attorney-Respondent A Response was filed by the Attorney-Respondent. There was no agreement to do an Appeal. Objection to allegation Number 7 as it makes assumptions, conclusions, and misleading false statements. There was no obligation on Attorney Frank Avila to file an appeal.
8. DENY. The Plaintiff was present in open court. He came to every court date in his proper person physically in court with his stepfather/mother's boyfriend and/or girlfriend to every court. He also had the assistance of a "jail house lawyer". The Plaintiff received a copy of the Dismissal Order. The Plaintiff was in open court when the decision was read by the Judge. This is absolutely false and incorrect.
9. DENY. Please see above. This is absolutely false and incorrect.
10. DENY.
11. ADMIT IN PART AND DENY IN PART. This was for the Attorney-Respondent to get the Plaintiff money to assist him or for Attorney Cooper to take moral responsibility not legal and nothing to do with the dismissed case per se. The Plaintiff was in court on every single court date and on September 14th, 2025 and received a copy of the Dismissal Order and was

in open court when the Honorable Judge read the Order. Judge Sherlock, opposing Counsel, and Frank Avila's assistants all would be witnesses to this.

12. DENY. Object to allegation Number 12 because it is confused as to what happened, repetitive, confusing, and makes assumptions, conclusions and speculations.
13. DENY. The Attorney-Respondent spoke to Attorney Cooper and Attorney Andrew Finko was a witness and one time Billy Richmond was with Frank Avila, Andrew Finko, Attorney Cooper (Attorney Cooper by accident) and Billy Richmond's girlfriend. Attorney Frank Avila also spoke to Attorney Cooper and Billy Richmond when Attorney Cooper was thinking about running for Judge. This was all moral because Cooper and Evans did do malpractice despite the Judge's ruling which was a "case within a case".
14. ADMIT in part and DENY in Part. The Attorney-Respondent told the same to Billy Richmond the same or a facsimile thereof numerous time. This was NOT a status on the malpractice case because Billy Richmond knew that the case was dismissed, was in court and received the order. This was about moral resolutions to do what was right rather than legal. These allegations completely misconstrue and cherry pick these text messages and none of them speaks of defendants nor an ongoing malpractice case.

15. DENY.

16. DENY.

17. DENY. The Plaintiff knew the case was dismissed in 2015 because he was physically in Court and received the Dismissal Order.

18. ADMIT. However, it was NOT just struggling to pay bills, Billy Richmond said that he was going to be homeless.

19. ADMIT in part and DENY in part.

20. ADMIT. The payments were so Billy Richmond would not be homeless because he felt bad for him.

21. a. DENY. There was no pending litigation when the Attorney-Respondent made payments to him. The case was over and Billy Richmond was not a client except at some point, Attorney-Respondent Frank Avila called and tried to negotiate with another Attorney to respond a debt that prohibited Billy Richmond from obtaining his driver's license. The Attorney-Respondent did this pro-bono and was not connected to charitable assistance. The payments were made so Billy Richmond was not homeless. The payments were made in Christian Charity and Billy Richmond was NOT an active client except for Frank Avila, after the payments began, attempted to negotiate a debt for Billy Richmond which prohibited him from getting his license.

b. DENY. Billy Richmond was physically in Court in his proper person for every Court Date with his girlfriend at the time and/or

stepfather/mother's boyfriend with the assistance of a "jail house lawyer". Billy Richmond received the Order. The Attorney-Respondent filed a Motion to Reconsider. Billy Richmond signed it. This allegation is DENIED, is false, absurd and impossible.

AMENDED ANSWER TO COUNT II

22. ADMIT in part. CLARIFICATION: The Respondent-Attorney Frank Avila told the Respondent about the consequences of the sentence, not R.R. telling Frank Avila. Neither party recalls any exact date.
23. ADMIT in Part and DENY in Part: There were different offers that were not all the same. The Respondent-Attorney Frank Avila communicated some of what was said to him but not all because of the confusion and he was sick at the time. There were 4 different offers and discussion and permutations on those 4.
24. ADMIT. The State did not state any offers on the record. The Honorable Judge did NOT give any Curry admonishments. The Honorable Judge did not state the consequences of a conviction of this crime. The Honorable Judge allowed in alleged text messages at Trial that were not presented before. The Honorable Judge made this ARDC Complaint against Frank Avila to distract from her own failures and responsibilities.
25. ADMIT. The Attorney-Respondent also stated he was sick and hospitalized shortly thereafter with H. Pylori and tears in his stomach and put on 3 new medications, 2 of them being heavy antibiotics.

26. ADMIT in part and DENY in part. The Honorable Judge would not allow Frank Avila to continue as R.R.'s attorney and appointed the public defender. R.R. did tell Frank Avila that she received supervision on a reduced charge that was eligible to be expunged.

27. a. ADMIT in part and DENY in part. This all happened within in one day on a day when the Respondent-Attorney was sick and was hospitalized shortly thereafter. Frank Avila ADMITS he did not communicate all the offers. Frank Avila ADMITS he did not communicate the consequences of a conviction on the day of trial, but did explain them on a previous court date.

b. ADMIT. However, again, this happened all in one day and on a day when the Attorney-Respondent was sick and was hospitalized shortly thereafter. Frank Avila admitted to the Judge that he did not communicate all the offers, but the main position was that Curry admonishments were not made.

c. ADMIT. However, this happened all in one day and on a day that the Attorney-Respondent was sick and hospitalized thereafter.

Frank Avila ADMITS that he did NOT communicate all offers to R.R. nor did he explain on the day of trial what the consequences of a conviction were even though he did do previously. Frank Avila admits to the allegations in Count II, with some corrections and clarifications in detail, and takes full responsibility for his actions. He did violate his duty but

this all happened in one day that was very confusing, and the Attorney-Respondent was sick and should of continued the case but R.R. was waiting for a conclusion to this unjust case against her and Frank Avila did not realize how sick he was and was hospitalized for approximately 5 days at Resurrection Hospital and diagnosed with H. Pylori and tears in his stomach and gastritis. Frank Avila did not know he had these conditions and apologizes to R.R. and takes responsibility for not communicating all the offers to R.R. and admitted this to the Court and admitted this to the Honorable Judge.

Frank Avial apologized to his client R.R. and takes responsibility for his lack of communication of all the offers to her. Frank Avila admits to the allegations in Count II generally and takes fully responsibility. Frank Avila admitted this to the Court. Frank Avila admitted this to his client. Frank Avila admitted this to the ARDC. However, there is a context and mitigation as all actions happened in one day and Frank Avila was sick on that day. R.R. did NOT make a complaint against Frank Avila and has NOT waived Attorney-Client privilege and Frank Avila only wanted what is best for her. R.R. is NOT the Complainant and Frank Avila ADMITS to the allegations with some clarifications and nuance.

AMENDED ANSWER TO COUNT III

28. ADMIT

29. ADMIT

30. ADMIT

31. ADMIT

32. ADMIT in part and DENY in part. Frank Avila is his own client and he advocates for himself in numerous ways including here.

33. The Attorney-Respondent cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations and needs strict proof thereof.

Respondent's Accountant is an accountant for his business and to help with his IOLTA account—this is a law business related expense—

However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to not do this in the future, he will not.

The Former Driver drove him to Court—this is a law business related expense. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney Respondent not to do this in the future he will not.

The Mentalist-Hypnosis assisted on jury instruction and mediation—this is a law business expense and not an entertainment expense. However, if the ARDC Orders the Attorney-Respondent not to do this in the future, he will not and stop this practice.

Which former client? The Attorney-Respondent requires more information. However, this may not be a law-business expense.

Respondent's son did work for the Attorney which is law business related.

However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

Frank Avila has a home law office and meets clients and does work in his home so a portion of his payment for his home is for law business.

However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

Respondent's wife sometimes does work or needs to be reimbursed for tasks done in the practice of law and the business of law. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

The Attorney-Respondent uses the Union League Club for business, meetings, conference rooms, settlement conferences, business dinners—all in the practice of law. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

The Respondent-Attorney uses the utilities in the home during his practice of law and sometimes contributes to utilities. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

The Respondent-Attorney is the Attorney and Advocate for his daughter and the payment for his daughter's school was not from client's funds but the Attorney's own funds. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

The Retainer for the law firm was for the Attorney-Respondent. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

Some of these may be personal, however, the Union League Club, workers, payment for home and home office etc. are all in the practice of law and the business of law. Perhaps it is borderline but the Attorney-Respondent had no malintent. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop. The Respondent-Attorney will do training and be more careful in the future.

34. DENY that all these expenses were personal. ADMIT that some may be interpreted as personal. Most were in the practice of law and the business of law. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop.

35. a. DENY. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop. Frank Avila is his own advocate with the VA and the DAV and has to constantly advocate for himself for medical reasons.

36. a. DENY. No client funds were used to pay any of the items listed above. These were all funds that belonged to Attorney Frank Avila. Attorney Frank Avila is his own lawyer and advocate. Client funds were NEVER affected. No client filed a Complaint against Frank Avila regarding this.

- No client lost money. However, if the ARDC orders the Attorney-Respondent to stop these practices, than the Attorney-Respondent will stop. Frank Avila will also do training as necessary to clarify any mistakes he did. None of what Attorney Frank Avila did was intentional.
37. The Attorney Respondent cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations contained in paragraph number 37.
38. ADMIT
39. ADMIT
40. DENY. The Respondent-Attorney kept copies of all incoming and outgoing cheques, deposits, electronic transfers and wires.
41. DENY: The Respondent-Attorney was working on his reconciliation but was delayed by significant medical issues.
42. DENY: The Respondent-Attorney had copies of most (he was missing some) incoming deposits (Cheques and Wires) and outgoing (Cheques, Wires, and electronic transfer). He was working on the reconciliation but had significant medical issues.
43. a. ADMIT in part and DENY in part. The Respondent-Attorney Frank Avila was delayed in the reconciliation; however, he did keep all records (but was missing some) and had a rough ledger) and was working on the reconciliation but was delayed in finishing the reconciliation reports due to a busy court and work schedule and serious medical issues.

44. a. ADMIT in part and DENY in part. The Respondent-Attorney Frank Avila was delayed in the reconciliation and finishing all reports, however, he kept records and the delay was not intentional nor do to malice or negligence but do mostly significant medical issues and a busy court, trial and work schedule. However, the Respondent-Attorney does recognize he He also has received some assistance.
45. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations contained in paragraph 45.
46. ADMIT. However, this was not because of a bounced cheque but interest taken out at time that Frank Avila was NOT made aware, given no notice and not told about—which he was mistaken of. It was interest taken by the Illinois Supreme Court. No Client Funds were risked. No Client made a complaint about this.
47. The Attorney-Respondent cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph 47 as written.
48. The Attorney-Respondent cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph 48 as written.
49. ADMIT.
50. ADMIT.
51. ADMIT. Because the requests were onerous and not reciprocal nor commensurate with the how the account went negative and required Attorney-Client confidential and privileged information, Confidentiality

Non-Disclosure agreements, information from other Attorney(s), and this took an incredible amount of time to collect especially with the significant medical issues that Frank Avila was dealing with and a busy court, trial and work schedule of current obligations with small (mostly family) part assistance and no other lawyers assisting on these issues, one other attorney co-counseling on a case by case basis, in October of 2025 a part time Attorney was assisting which became full time in late January of 2026.

52. ADMIT.

53. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph 53 as to what others did that he is not an eyewitness to.

54. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph 54 as to what others did.

55. ADMIT.

56. ADMIT.

57. ADMIT.

58. ADMIT.

59. DENY. The Respondent-Attorney provided documents on an ongoing basis but not in on batch. The Respondent-Attorney asked for extensions and continuous and informed the ARDC Investigator and Senior Attorneys of his medical issues.

60. ADMIT insofar as the Respondent-Attorney provided an external thumb drive.
61. ADMIT insofar as he appeared for appear for a second sworn statement.
62. ADMIT.
63. ADMIT. The Attorney was doing Trial Prep for a major Federal Trial.
64. ADMIT. The Attorney was in the middle of a Federal Jury Trial which he won.
65. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph DENY. Settlement Agreements, Disbursements and other documents were provided.
66. ADMIT.
67. DENY. Settlement Agreements, Disbursements, Reports and partial Reconsiderations were provided.
68. ADMIT.
69. ADMIT.
70. DENY. More than one Settlement Agreement, Disbursements and other documents were provided—admittedly maybe not at one time.
71. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations paragraph 71 because it is a conclusion and a characterization.
72. The Respondent-Attorney cannot ADMIT nor DENY the allegations in paragraph 72 as to what others did. An attorney did not file an appearance on the Respondent-Attorney's behalf but he did reach out to

Attorney(s). The Attorney-Respondent did provide documentation. Some documentation was in the possession of other Attorney(s), and was Attorney-Client confidential and privileged, with confidentiality non-disclosure provisions—and no client money was missing and no client made a complaint against the Respondent-Attorney.

73. a. DENY. There were mitigating factors of other attorneys having documents, the Attorney having medical issues, the Attorney having a busy court/trial/work schedule, and other mitigation factors for a case where not one client made a complaint about the Attorney regarding IOLTA funds and no client funds were missing. Also, a final reconciliation report was provided. However, the Attorney will correct any practices and do any training necessary.

REASONS FOR DELAY AND MITIGATION

74. On or about late May 2022/late June 2022, Attorney Frank Avila went to Lutheran General Hospital because of a debilitating pain in his side that was making him constantly just fold over in pain. This pain was going on for some time but became crippling pain in late May 2022. He entered in the emergency room but shortly became an inpatient at Lutheran General Hospital. At first, they were going to take out his Appendix. Then they said it was something else and in the end they thought it could be something with the gall bladder. They also said that Frank Avila had high

blood pressure, an issue with his heart and lungs and decreased heart function. A number of diagnostic tests were done and surgeries were scheduled and cancelled. He also learned at this time or shortly thereafter that he had non-alcoholic liver cirrhosis which he never had before. He never had high blood pressure before late May/early June 2022. He never had liver non-alcoholic liver cirrhosis before late May/early June 2022. He was an inpatient from Sunday to approximately Friday.

75. On or about mid to late July 2022, Attorney Frank Avila was referred to a cardiologist at the VA and was told he had high blood pressure (a condition he did not have previous to 2022) and slightly decreased heart function after an echocardiogram was performed.
76. On or about in late February/early March 2023, Frank Avila was taken to Resurrection Hospital in an ambulance because he was having violent muscle spasms and excruciating muscle pains. This was going on for sometime but got to the point where he could not type, nor even walk and was crippled and riddled with pain. At Resurrection Hospital, they said his heart function was fine (contradicting what he was told at Lutheran General) but he had very low thyroid. He was an inpatient at Resurrection Hospital from Monday night until Friday or Saturday. He was put on high dose Thyroid medication intravenously. He had bad muscle spasms and muscle pains before but this was the worse—in the past it was due to being dehydrated and also due to an allergic reaction to statins that he

developed somewhere around 2014 to 2018. In 2026, he learned the muscle spasms at that time were due to low Potassium. The Muscle Spasms in late February 2023/early March 2023 were the worst ever and Attorney Avila thought he was going to die and he was literally writhing on the floor and screaming in pain and could not even walk. Resurrection Hospital did blood and other diagnostic tests and gave Frank Avila high dose intravenous thyroid medication (Levothyroxine if the Attorney remembers correctly).

77. On or about late July 2023, Attorney Frank Avila went to court at the Leighton Criminal Court at 26th and California but on the way there felt weak, disoriented, suffered from vertigo, and had bad nausea and had to open his car door to vomit out the door which he did with some skill as none of the vomit got on him nor the car and all went out on the I-290. He still went to Court from approximately 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. After court, he went to the Jesse Brown VA and he was told he was told he had to be inpatient and had an 80% of dying because he had low blood pressure and low cortisol. He stayed as an inpatient for 2 days and was released late the next day after receiving high dose intravenous cortisol. He went to court sick to complete his duties to his clients and afterwards went to the Jesse Brown VA where he had an 80% chance of dying due to low blood pressure and low cortisol.

78. Attorney Frank Avila was in the emergency room (at Resurrection, Lutheran General, Jesse Brown VA, Northwestern, Rush) for small periods of time and outpatient at the Jesse Brown VA.
79. On or about the first week of December 2024, Frank Avila was an inpatient at Resurrection Hospital for pains in his side but this time he found out, after two invasive diagnostic procedures, that he had H. Pylori and tears in on his stomach based on a endoscopy, colonoscopy (which was good), and a biopsy. He had pains in his side and stomach and lost a good amount of weight because of nausea and other issues. The Saturday after Thanksgiving 2024, the pain came to a point where he could not handle it and the following Sunday or Monday he went to Resurrection Hospital. He was inpatient for approximately 4 or 5 days approximately and was giving 2 very harsh antibiotics and another medication which made Attorney Frank Avila even more nauseous.
80. On or about mid to late May of 2024, Attorney Frank Avila was the Passenger of a client's vehicle that was rear ended in the City of Harvey. An argument ensued after the accident, and another vehicle drove up also. Some of the individuals in the vehicle that rear ended the vehicle that Attorney Frank Avila was in, and the other vehicle started making threats and had firearms. Attorney Frank Avila defused the situation with words but later on had an adrenaline rush and nausea from the situation and trying to be cool in defusing the situation with words. Frank Avila

sought Physical Therapy to assist him. He was also prescribed a muscle relaxant. At times he could not type, and was in pain to sleep, sit, type, write and do other tasks and was in terrible pain.

81. Because of the accident of May 2024 accident as a passenger in a client's vehicle in Harvey, Illinois, Attorney Frank Avila was in pain, had difficulty sleeping, typing, sitting, had headaches, and neck mobility issues. He had physical therapy to address the situation. He also took a medication that made him drowsy.

82. Because of the accident of May 2024 accident as a passenger in a client's vehicle in Harvey, Illinois, Attorney Frank Avila was in pain, had difficulty sleeping, typing, sitting, had headaches, and neck mobility issues. He had physical therapy to address the situation. He also took medication that made him drowsy.

83. On or about inn July of 2024, Attorney Frank Avila was a passenger in a vehicle that rear ended another vehicle on the I-55. This second accident further exacerbated his original injury and his pain got worse. Attorney Frank Avila had worse headaches, and he had a much harder time typing, and had pain radiating to his arms, down his backs and acute pain in his neck, shoulders, and trapezius. He had severe difficulty and pain when typing and doing basic tasks. He had further physical therapy and took medications that made him drowsy. The pain was debilitating and inhibited working. Tyler Zupancic was the drive in the 2nd accident.

84. On or about the 2nd week of August of 2024, Attorney Frank Avila's parents got COVID-19. As of 2026, his father is 88 years old and his mother will be 86 years old.

85. On or or about the last week of August or the first week of September 2024, Attorney Frank Avila got COVID-19 which lasted approximately 3 weeks. Attorney Frank Avila tested positive for COVID-19 the first week of September 2024. Although Attorney Frank Avila was not hospitalized, did not have any respiratory issues, did not lose his sense of smell nor taste, nor any severe symptom and only had a low-grade fever---he did have fatigue that was severe and extreme in the sense that he was constantly tired for two weeks and moderately fatigued for another week or two. For approximately two weeks, Attorney Frank Avila constantly tired, slept almost all the time, and sometimes did not even know the time nor day nor date. He was disoriented and only used the bathroom and drank water and Pedialyte and barely ate besides sleeping or resting. This was not merely having fatigue. Attorney Frank Avila did not move from the couch and bed for several hours---this also brought back some of the neck pain and caused lower back pain. He could not work for this period of time of approximately three weeks and two weeks he was almost completely incapacitated beyond a few calls and e-mails.

86. In the fall of 2024, Attorney Frank Avila felt generally unwell even after he had COVID-19 and in December of 2024, as mentioned above was

diagnosed with H. Pylori, tears in his stomach, and gastritis after a stay in Resurrection Hospital from Monday to Friday during the first week of December in 2024. This was mentioned above.

87. On or about in late January 2025, Attorney Frank Avila went to the emergency room at Resurrection Hospital. He had muscle pains and spasms but not as serious.
88. On or about in mid-February 2025, Attorney Frank Avila went to the Emergency room at Resurrection Hospital.
89. During this time he had other issues that he did not go to the hospital for, and outpatient and calls with Jesse Brown VA.
90. The most significant, and new issue(s) were in mid to late January of 2026, Frank Avila went to prepare for a Trial (which got continued and settled) and a Pre-Trial Motions (which also got continued) with Attorney John Lechuga who was his co-counsel on a number of matters who lives (most of the time) and works (remotely) in Mexico City, Mexico. We also have some matters in Mexico separate and apart from these 2 cases.
91. Mid to late January 2026, Frank Avila fell from a very tall height. It was not a straight drop down but it was fairly high and very frightening at the time. He had no physical damage from the fall per se but it might have been the cause of other issues.

92. After the fall, Frank Avila was bleeding out of his nostril and had high blood pressure. He saw an outpatient doctor and was told not to fly/travel due to the high blood pressure.
93. Frank Avila was having for sometime off and on in 2025, and in early and mid and late 2026, violent muscle spasms, excruciating muscle pains (but not as bad as late February/late March of 2023), vertigo, nausea and violent vomiting.
94. Frank Avila was debilitated and could not work for most of October of 2025.
95. On or about late January 2026, Attorney Frank Avila was suffering from high blood pressure and chest pains. He also had some nausea, blood nose and weakness.
96. On or about late January 2026, Attorney Frank Avila went to the ABC Hospital in Mexico City and after a number of diagnostic tests was told he had a heart attack, decreased heart function, and an enlarged heart. He never had a heart attack before (although he was told he may have had small heart attacks or strokes before), he had decreased heart function before but it went up on it's own before, and he never had an enlarged heart before. He also had an ENT procedure unrelated to the cardiovascular issues. He was put on 3 new medications and found out it was low potassium as the reason for the muscle spasms this time, and taken off one medication (Entresto, Jardiance and Potassium were the

new medications and he was taken off Lisinopril). He was an inpatient in the hospital on or about late January and/or early February 2026. When he returned home, he went to the VA however, Attorney Avila was underwhelmed with their service. He missed his daughter's Birthday for the first time in 15 years of her life because he was hospitalized. There may have been one other time when he was on active duty but he believes this was the first which he was crushed about because he has a close relationship with his daughter.

97. In late June 2025/early July 2025 Attorney Frank Avila had pains in his inside legs from above the knee to below the groin, that were so bad that he could not walk for a period of time. There were other issues also. He went to Northwestern Hospital and waited for 7 hours and still was not seen so went home and took something to deal with the pain. This pain was excruciating and so painful that Attorney Avila could not walk.
98. In 2025, for periods of time in the summer and fall, Frank Avila suffered from nausea, vomiting, vertigo, and extreme fatigue and slept for long periods of time and could not work.
99. After he returned home from the ABC hospital in Mexico City in early 2026, Frank Avila needed to rest, take time off work and decrease stress as well as receive follow up care. He had a heart attack, decreased heart function and an enlarged heart. He never had a heart attack before nor did he have an enlarged heart. He may have had low potassium before.

However, his heart and arteries were clear and they did not have to do an angioplasty nor stents as they thought they would have to do—but there was no blockage. They did not know why the heart was enlarged and it was not a typical heart attack.

100. Frank Avila did not work, besides some e-mails, phone calls and a few zoom courts, from mid to late January to mid to late March.

101. The Entresto or Jardiance has caused a side effect of insomnia and disorientation. Sometimes this causes extreme fatigue and anxiety. The generic brand prescribed by the VA may do this more so he was able to get the name brand medicines from Mexico. He also takes supplements like magnesium, melatonin, CBD, prayer and breathing exercises to assist to combat the side effects. 2026 has been a very difficult year for Frank Avila. Frank Avila was not able to work for parts of 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

102. Frank Avila was prescribed Entresto and Jardiance and Potassium and taken off Lisinopril after the heart attack and enlarged heart. He would get insomnia and disorientation as a side effect of the medications.

103. No client made an ARDC Complaint about the IOLTA account by Frank Avila.

104. Frank Avila took the R.R. case on a pro-bon basis, and took Billy Richmond's case on a pure contingency without any upfront payment.

105. No client funds are missing, taken, stolen, compromised nor affected in any way.
106. Frank Avila did provide documents including settlement agreements, disbursements, and did provide a final reconciliation. However, he will obey any orders by the ARDC and take any training.
107. Frank Avila did NOT disobey any order nor directive by Stephanie Bogdan nor the ARDC and Frank Avila DID inform her of his medical conditions, trials, etc. Frank Avila was in the hospital on several occasions from 2022 to 2026 including where he had an 80% chance of dying, where he could not even walk nor type, and when he had an a heart attack and enlarged heart—Frank Avila informed Bogdan and the ARDC of this and this is not an excuse but just an explanation and reason for any delays. When Frank Avila was healthy enough to return to work he was overloaded with trials, hearings, court dates, deadlines, responses, and he has no full-time help. One Attorney helping him in October 2025 when he could not work most of that month and then even more so after January 2026 when he had a heart attack and enlarged heart—that Attorney died in April of 2026.
108. Attorney Frank Avila apologizes to the ARDC and anyone else for any delays, requests for extensions and continuance. However, this was not intentional nor negligent. Any delays were not meant to offend nor intentionally delay or not respond.

109. Frank Avila was just recently in the hospital briefly.
110. Frank Avila still frequently has muscle spasms, pains, nausea, insomnia, disorientation, anxiety, and severe fatigue.
111. Again, Frank Avila apologizes to the ARDC and apologized to R.R. and the Court (but also think the Court in R.R.'s case has responsibility but so does Attorney Avila) and any delay was not intentional nor negligent. Frank Avila has been dealing with significant chronic and acute medical issues since 2022 and even before that but a big gap before that.
112. Frank Avila has not ever lost an adult state murder case.
113. Frank Avila has not lost a DUI Trial in 11 years.
114. Frank Avila has a large case load with complex cases and does a ton of pro-bono and low-cost work. His clients are usually the little guy against big corporations and big government. Frank Avila is honored to serve clients and hops to continue to do so but will take whatever correction, orders, changes and training he needs to do.

WHEREFORE, THE ATTORNEY-RESPONDENT, prays for the Relief from this Honorable Commission of accepting this AMENDED ANSWER and allow it's presentation before the Commission.

Respectfully,

By: /s/ *Electronic Signature of Frank Avila*
Frank Avila

Frank Avila
Illinois ARDC No. **6273730**
FrankAvilaLaw@Gmail.com
f.avila@avila-law.com
773-671-3480

SECTION 1-109 VERIFICATION OF FRANK AVILA

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned Respondent-Attorney, Frank Avila certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument (Amended Answer) 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.

Respectfully Certified and Verified,

By: /s/ *Electronic Signature of Frank Avila*
Frank Avila