

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

In the Matter of:

JOSHUA SHAWN REEVES,

Attorney-Respondent,

No. 6324550.

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Commission No. 2026PR00028

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COMPLAINT

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (“ARDC”), by her attorney, Tammy L. Evans, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 753(b), complains of Respondent, Joshua Shawn Reeves, who was licensed to practice law in Illinois on November 10, 2016, and alleges that Respondent has engaged in the following conduct which subjects Respondent to discipline pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 770:

COUNT I

(Dishonesty, Practicing Law After Removal from the Roll of Attorneys, and Engaging in Conduct that is Prejudicial to the Administration of Justice)

1. At all times alleged in this complaint, Supreme Court Rule 756(a) required every attorney admitted to practice law in Illinois to register and pay an annual registration fee to the ARDC on or before the first day of January.

2. At all times alleged in this complaint, Supreme Court Rule 756(h) required the Administrator to remove the name of any attorney who had not registered from the roll of attorneys on or after February 1 of that year.

3. At all times alleged in this complaint, Supreme Court Rule 794 required that, subject to certain exceptions that do not apply to Respondent in this matter, every Illinois attorney

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5/5/2026 9:30 AM
ARDC Clerk

was required to complete 30 hours of continuing legal education (“CLE”) activity during the attorney’s two-year reporting period ending on June 30. For attorneys whose last names started with the letter “R,” including Respondent, the most recent two-year reporting requirement ran from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025.

4. As of June 30, 2025, Respondent had not completed any CLE activity as required by Supreme Court Rule 794.

5. Certain attorneys, including Respondent, who were required to comply with the 2023-2025 CLE reporting period were eligible to obtain a grace period extension from the MCLE Board until October 30, 2025 to complete their CLE requirements. To obtain the grace period extension, a qualifying attorney would need to enter certain information online and pay the MCLE Board a \$100 fee no later than July 31, 2025. At no time did Respondent request a grace period extension to complete his CLE requirements.

6. At all times alleged in this complaint, Supreme Court Rule 796(e) required the Administrator to remove from the roll of attorneys authorized to practice law in Illinois the name of any attorney who had not complied with their CLE requirement.

7. At all times alleged in this complaint, Supreme Court Rule 756(h), “any person whose name is not on the master roll and who practices law or who holds himself or herself out as being authorized to practice law pursuant to the attorney's Illinois law license is engaged in the unauthorized practice of law and may also be held in contempt of the Court.”

8. Between April 30, 2025 and December 1, 2025, Respondent received at least the following messages from the MCLE Board concerning his compliance with Supreme Court Rules 794 and 796 during the 2023-2025 MCLE reporting period:

DATE	METHOD OF CORRESPONDENCE	DESCRIPTION
April 30, 2025	E-mail* (*The MCLE Board sent every email communication to each of Respondent's two registered email addresses)	Initial notice to Respondent for his 2023-2025 Reporting Period from the MCLE Board of the Illinois Supreme Court.
May 23, 2025	USPS postcard reminder	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his 2023-2025 MCLE reporting requirements.
June 11, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his 2023-2025 MCLE requirements.
June 18, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his 2023-2025 MCLE reporting period requirements.
June 25, 2025	Email	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his 2023-2025 MCLE reporting period requirements.
June 30, 2025	Email	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that his credit completion deadline was June 30, 2025.
July 14, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that his credit reporting deadline was July 31, 2025.
July 29, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his impending \$250 late fee.
July 31, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his impending \$250 late fee and that he must take action that day.
August 19, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his Final MCLE deadlines for his 2023-2025 reporting period and notifying him of his non-compliance.
August 27, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of the tips for the 2023-2025 grace period.
September 17, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his 2023-2025 reporting period requirements.
October 9, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that the final deadline was

		approaching and that October 31, 2025 was his credit completion deadline.
October 23, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that the final deadline was approaching and that October 31, 2025 was his credit completion deadline
October 31, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that the final deadline was approaching and that October 31, 2025 was his credit completion deadline
November 7, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that the credit reporting deadline was November 30, 2025.
November 20, 2025	Email	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent of his impending removal.
November 25, 2025	E-mail	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication and final reminder notifying Respondent of his impending removal.
December 1, 2025	Removal from master roll for MCLE non-compliance	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that a removal referral for MCLE non-compliance had been created and had been electronically sent to the ARDC on this day for the 2023-2025 reporting period and that the ARDC had removed him from the roll of attorneys.
December 1, 2025	Attorney assessed reinstatement fee	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that a \$500 reinstatement fee had been assessed against him and that the reinstatement fee must be paid and his transcript must reflect compliance with, or exemption from, the MCLE requirements for the 2023-2025 reporting period before he can be reinstated to the roll of attorneys for that reporting period.
December 1, 2025	Email – notice of removal	Official Illinois MCLE Board Communication notifying Respondent that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys.
December 1, 2025	USPS – notice of removal	Notice was mailed to Respondent notifying him that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys for MCLE non-compliance pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 796(e).

9. As of December 1, 2025, Respondent had not complied with the MCLE requirements for the 2023-2025 reporting period, and the MCLE Board electronically sent a removal referral for Respondent for MCLE noncompliance to the Administrator of the ARDC.

On the same day, the Administrator removed Respondent's name from the roll of attorneys authorized to practice law in Illinois.

10. On or about December 2, 2025, Respondent received notice of his removal from the roll of attorneys from the MCLE Board which resulted from Respondent's failure to comply with the MCLE requirements. As of at least this date, Respondent knew that he was no longer authorized to practice law in Illinois as a result of his removal from the roll of attorneys.

11. Respondent did not register and pay his annual registration fee for 2026 to the ARDC on or before January 1, 2026.

12. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 756(h), on February 2, 2026, the Administrator removed Respondent from the roll of attorneys for failing to complete the registration process or pay the annual registration fee for 2026. On or about February 2, 2026, Respondent received notice from the ARDC that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys for failing to complete the registration process or pay the annual registration fee for 2026.

13. Between June 30, 2025 and March 3, 2026, Respondent logged on to his "My MCLE" page on the MCLE Board's website 36 times. The following is a list of the dates and times that Respondent logged on to his "My MCLE" page and the information that was reflected on his "My MCLE" page each of the 36 times that he logged on to the MCLE Board website:

DATE(S) AND TIME(S) OF LOGIN	2022-2024 REPORTING PERIOD DETAIL AND CURRENT ARDC REGISTRATION STATUS	COMPLIANCE STATUS SUMMARY
<u>June 30, 2025</u> : 10:20 a.m.	Compliance Status: In Progress; Credit Completion Deadline: 6/30/25; Credit Reporting Deadline: July 31, 2025. Current ARDC Registration Status: Active Law License.	Total Credits Earned: 0.00
<u>January 19, 2026</u> : 11:52 a.m. <u>January 22, 2026</u> : 9:14 a.m.	Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500. Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed from Master Roll for MCLE Non-Compliance.	\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 0.00
<u>February 17, 2026</u> : 2:14 p.m.	Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500. Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed from the Master Roll for Failure to Register with ARDC and MCLE Non-Compliance.	\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 0.00
<u>February 17, 2026</u> : 2:34 p.m. <u>February 19, 2026</u> : 4:08 p.m. <u>February 20, 2026</u> : 6:58	Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500.	\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 0.00

<p>a.m., 7:11 a.m., 9:23 a.m., 9:41 a.m.</p>	<p>Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.</p>	
<p><u>February 20, 2026</u>: 10:16 a.m., 10:50 a.m., 11:12 a.m., 11:31 a.m., 12:14 p.m., and 12:29 p.m.</p>	<p>Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500.</p> <p>Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.</p>	<p>\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 1.75</p>
<p><u>February 20, 2026</u>: 1:12 p.m.</p> <p><u>February 23, 2026</u>: 7:25 a.m., 8:23 a.m., 8:59 a.m., and 12:25 p.m.</p> <p><u>February 26, 2026</u>: 9:35 a.m.</p> <p><u>February 27, 2026</u>: 10:51 a.m., 11:40 a.m.</p> <p><u>March 1, 2026</u>: 6:46 p.m.</p> <p><u>March 2, 2026</u>: 3:27 p.m., 6:40 p.m., and 7:01 p.m.</p> <p><u>March 3, 2026</u>: 10:11 a.m., 10:29 a.m., and 11:28 a.m.</p>	<p>Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500.</p> <p>Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.</p>	<p>\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 5.75</p>
<p><u>March 3, 2026</u>: 12:10 p.m.</p>	<p>Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500.</p> <p>Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.</p>	<p>\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 15.75</p>

<u>March 3, 2026: 12:47 p.m.</u>	Compliance Status: In Progress; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500. Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.	\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 28.00
<u>March 3, 2026: 12:59 p.m.</u>	Compliance Status: Complied; Reporting Stage: Removed; Credit Completion Deadline: Overdue; Credit Reporting & Fee Deadline: Overdue; Late Fee Owed: \$500. Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.	\$500 Reinstatement Fee Unpaid; Total Credits Earned: 30.75
<u>March 3, 2026: 1:09 p.m.</u>	Compliance Status: Complied; Reporting Stage: Pending Reinstatement Current ARDC Registration Status: Removed for MCLE Non-Compliance.	Total Credits Earned: 30.75
<u>March 3, 2026: 1:30 p.m.</u>	Compliance Status: Complied. Current ARDC Registration Status: Reinstated to the Master Roll of Attorneys.	2023-2025 Reporting Period is Closed.

14. Between December 1, 2025, when he was removed from the roll of attorneys, and 1:20 p.m. on March 3, 2026, when he was reinstated to the roll of attorneys, Respondent caused his appearance to be filed and/or appeared in court at least 76 times on behalf of at least 63 clients in the circuit courts of at least seven different counties, including Clay County, Clinton County, Effingham County, Fayette County, Jefferson County, Marion County, and

Perry County.

15. On or about February 20, 2026, Respondent appeared before the Honorable Sonja L. Ligon in Jefferson County for a status hearing on an order of protection matter. Judge Ligon asked Respondent about the status of his license and Respondent stated that he had just learned that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys two days earlier, had corrected the problem and paid his fees, and that the information on the ARDC website had simply not been updated.

16. Respondent's statements to Judge Ligon described in paragraph 15, above, were false, because Respondent was not authorized to practice law before Judge Ligon on February 20, 2026, because he knew of his lack of compliance with his MCLE requirements well before two days prior to that date, and because he had not taken any action to comply with the MCLE requirements or pay any past-due fees for the 2023-2025 reporting period.

17. At the time Respondent made the statements to Judge Ligon described in paragraph 15, above, he knew the statements were false because the MCLE Board notified him on December 1, 2025 that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys because he had not complied with the MCLE requirements for the 2023-2025 reporting period, because he had completed just 5.75 hours of the required 30 hours of CLE credit as of February 20, 2026, and because he had logged in to his My MCLE Page 14 times between February 17, 2026 and February 20, 2026, and each time he logged in to his My MCLE Page, his online transcript reflected that he had been removed from the roll of attorneys for MCLE non-compliance and was not authorized to practice law.

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

misconduct:

- a. knowingly making a false statement of fact or law to a tribunal or failing to correct a false statement of material fact or law previously made to the tribunal by the lawyer, by conduct including making false statements to Judge Ligon described in paragraph 15, above, in violation of Rule 3.3(a) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010);
- b. practicing law in a jurisdiction in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in that jurisdiction, by conduct including causing his appearance to be filed and/or appearing in court at least 76 times on behalf of at least 63 clients in at least seven different counties, in violation of Rule 5.5(a) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010);
- c. engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation, by conduct including knowingly holding himself out as being able to practice law although unauthorized to do so, and making false statements to Judge Ligon described in paragraph 15, above, in violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010); and
- d. conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, by conduct including holding himself out as authorized to practice law to clients, opposing counsel, and the court when he was not so authorized, in violation of Rule 8.4(d) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010).

COUNT II

(Failing to Cooperate with a Disciplinary Investigation – 2024IN02986 and 2024IN03250)

19. Prior to October 29, 2025, the Administrator had docketed two separate investigations, numbers 2024IN02986 and 2024IN03250, into Respondent's alleged conduct based on complaints submitted to the ARDC by former clients of Respondent. Counsel for the Administrator had attempted to obtain information about those complaints from Respondent by sending him letters requesting responses to those complaints, but as of October 29, 2025, Respondent had not responded to those requests. On that date, counsel for the Administrator sent

a letter and subpoena via email to Respondent, which Respondent received at or about the time they were sent. In her letter, counsel notified Respondent that investigation number 2024IN02986 and investigation number 2024IN03250 had been transferred from the ARDC's Intake Division to its Litigation Division. The subpoena required Respondent's appearance via the Zoom video conference platform for a sworn statement on November 20, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., and directed Respondent to produce copies of his client files relating to the two former clients.

20. On November 20, 2025, Respondent appeared for the sworn statement but requested a continuance because he stated that he intended to hire an attorney and provided the attorney's name to counsel for the Administrator. Respondent did not produce copies of his client files that were responsive to the October 29, 2025 subpoena.

21. On December 4, 2025, counsel for the Administrator sent an email to the attorney that Respondent purported to be hiring and asked that person if they were representing Respondent in the disciplinary investigations. The attorney responded to the message by stating that they did not represent Respondent in connection with those matters.

22. On December 19, 2025, counsel for the Administrator sent a letter via email to Respondent informing him that the attorney who he claimed to be hiring had confirmed that they would not be representing Respondent in the disciplinary investigations, and requested that, within seven days, he advise counsel in writing if he had retained counsel.

23. On December 29, 2025, Respondent sent an email to ARDC Senior Secretary Kristin Lowry. In his email, he stated that, if he were unable to hire an attorney by January 2, 2026, he would inform counsel for the Administrator so that she could reschedule the statement.

24. On January 5, 2026, counsel for the Administrator sent an email to Respondent acknowledging receipt of his December 29, 2025 email and informing him that she would like to

reschedule the video sworn statement for January 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Counsel asked Respondent to advise her if he was available on that date.

25. At no time between January 5, 2026 and January 16, 2026, did Respondent respond to counsel's January 5, 2026 email.

26. On January 16, 2026, counsel for the Administrator sent a letter to Respondent via email, which Respondent received at or about the time it was sent. In her letter, counsel advised Respondent that the subpoena that had previously been served upon him on October 29, 2025 remained in full force and effect and that he was required to appear via the Zoom video conference platform for a sworn statement on January 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Counsel also reminded Respondent that, as set forth in the subpoena rider, he was required to provide her with copies of his client files related to the two investigations.

27. Respondent did not appear for the January 23, 2026 sworn statement and did not provide counsel with copies of his client files. At no time did Respondent contact counsel and request that the statement be rescheduled. Respondent's appearance for the sworn statement and the production of the two client files has not been waived or excused.

28. By reason of the conduct described above, Respondent has engaged in the following misconduct:

- a. failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority, by conduct including failing to appear pursuant to subpoena for the January 23, 2026 sworn statement and failing to provide copies of his client files related to investigation number 2025IN02986 and 2025IN03250, in violation of Rule 8.1(b) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010).

WHEREFORE, the Administrator respectfully requests that this matter be assigned to a panel of the Hearing Board, that a hearing be held, and that the panel make findings of fact and

law, and a recommendation for such discipline as is warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator
Attorney Registration and
Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Tammy L. Evans
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