

1 STATE BAR OF NEVADA

2 SOUTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

3 STATE BAR OF NEVADA,)

4 Complainant,)

5 vs.)

6 LESLIE MARK STOVALL, ESQ.,)
7 Nevada Bar No. 2566)
8 Respondent)



FILED

FEB 08 2016

STATE BAR OF NEVADA
BY: [Signature]
OFFICE OF BAR COUNSEL

9 **PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

10 TO: Leslie Mark Stovall, Esq.:

11 **SG13-0902/ Marcelline I. Curran**

12 Marcelline I. Curran went to your office on December 3, 2012, to seek legal advice about
13 her mother's estate. At the time she met with your non-lawyer assistant Jackie Jackson. At this
14 meeting Ms. Jackson told Ms. Curran that your firm could create a revocable living trust on behalf
15 of Ms. Curran's mother for \$1,250. Ms. Curran agreed to this representation and signed a
16 retention agreement to this effect and paid the requested retainer.

17 Thereafter Ms. Curran did some research online and found information leading her to
18 conclude as a court appointed guardian, she would need the approval of the guardianship court to
19 set up a revocable trust, and since it would benefit the heirs more than her mother, it would likely
20 be denied.

21 Ms. Curran contacted your office on December 13, 2012, and requested that they call her
22 back with a timeline for preparing a petition for the court. When she had no response six (6)
23 weeks later, she called again and was advised by a staff member "Lisa C." that the firm "had not
24 prepared any documents." Ms. Curran told Lisa at that point she wanted a refund and the firm was
25 not to proceed with any further work.

Months passed with no contact and no refund. On April 13, 2013, Ms. Curran sent a
detailed letter via certified mail to you iterating the foregoing and again demanding a refund which
your office refused to provide.


Rule of Professional Conduct (RPC) 5.1 mandates that a "partner in a law firm, and a
lawyer who individually or together with other lawyers possesses comparable managerial
authority in a law firm, shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the firm has in effect measures
giving reasonable assurance that all lawyers in the firm conform to the Rules of Professional
Conduct."

1 Here, you acknowledge that you failed to properly supervise your Pahrump, Nevada office
2 and in that office you had non-lawyer staff providing legal advice as to what services Ms. Curran
needed and that staff had Ms. Curran execute a retainer agreement.

3 It is incumbent upon a lawyer to ensure that his staff is properly trained as to what they
4 ethically may or may not do, and in this instance your staff failed to meet those basic ethical
obligations. In light of the foregoing, you are hereby **PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED**.

5 DATED this ^{Feb} 3rd day of January, 2016.

8 By: _____



9 Jeffrey G. Sloane, Esq.,
10 Formal Hearing Panel Chair
11 Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board
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