Case No. OBC19-1240



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STATE BAR OF NEVADA SOUTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

STATE BAR OF NEVADA, Complainant,))
vs.) LETTER OF REPRIMAND
LOUIS SCHNEIDER, ESQ.,)
Nevada Bar No. 9683,)
Respondent.))

Mallissa Barthule paid you \$500 in or about January 2018 for legal services related to a child custody matter.

Ms. Barthule claimed that you agreed to draft a motion for modification of child custody, file it in Family Court and pay filing fees, and then attend the court hearing.

You have contended that you only agreed to review her documents and provide legal advice for the \$500, and would never file a motion and litigate her matter in court for that amount of money.

However, emails to Ms. Barthule from at least one of your employees indicated that she was working on a motion which would be filed with the court. The three emails were sent from an email account of your law firm. However, it is your contention that the representation ended after you dispensed the agree-upon legal advice to her. Your

employee did not know this and it is your position that Barthule misrepresented the scope of your representation to the employee.

Accordingly, Ms. Barthule was led to believe that your law firm was going to file a motion and represent her in court, although that apparently was not true. You did not know that your employee was making such statements to Ms. Barthule, which gave her false hope that her legal matter was progressing.

In mitigation, you provided a full refund to Ms. Barthule and her legal matter did not suffer irreparable damage.

Accordingly, you are hereby Reprimanded for violating Rule of Professional Conduct 5.3 (Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants).

DATED this 29 day of September, 2020.

Marc Cook (Sep 29, 2020 23:55 PDT)

MARC COOK, Chair Southern Nevada Disciplinary Panel