

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINE OF
BENSON LEE.

No. 48220

FILED

DEC 12 2006

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

JANETTE M. BLOOM
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *J. Chittell*
DEPUTY CLERK

This is an automatic appeal from a Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board hearing panel's recommendation that attorney Benson Lee be suspended from the practice of law for three months, that Lee be required to attend three hours of Continuing Legal Education in ethics and three hours in law practice management (in addition to Lee's annual CLE requirement), and that Lee be assessed the \$1,608.31 cost of the disciplinary proceedings, based on the panel's conclusion that Lee violated SCR 151 (competence), SCR 153 (diligence), SCR 187 (responsibilities regarding nonlawyer assistants), SCR 200(2) (bar association and disciplinary matters), and SCR 203(4) (misconduct: conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice).¹ Lee has not contested the recommendation.


Having reviewed the record, we conclude that the panel's recommendation should be approved. Specifically, the record reflects Lee's consistent neglect of and inability to manage his law practice, and Lee's


¹The rules governing professional conduct were substantially revised after the state bar instituted the underlying complaint against Lee, and the former rules apply. Nevertheless, no change other than renumbering was made to the provisions relevant to this matter.

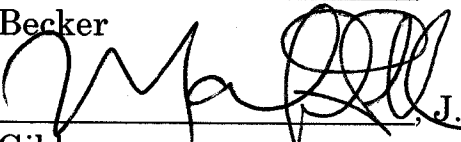
failure to adequately communicate with his clients. Indeed, Lee's nonresponsiveness manifested itself in the underlying disciplinary proceedings, as Lee failed to meaningfully communicate with the State Bar leading up to the disciplinary hearing, at which Lee failed to offer any explanation sufficient to mitigate the negative weight of his conduct.

Accordingly, the panel's recommendation is approved in full. Lee is suspended from the practice of law for a period of three months. Additionally, Lee shall attend three hours of Continuing Legal Education in ethics and three hours in law practice management (in addition to Lee's annual CLE requirement), providing proof of such attendance to the State Bar, and he is assessed the \$1,608.31 cost of the disciplinary proceedings. Lee and the state bar shall comply with SCR 115 and SCR 121.1.²


It is so ORDERED.³

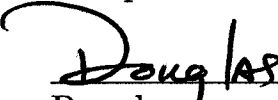

_____, C.J.
Rose


_____, J.
Becker


_____, J.
Gibbons


_____, J.
Hardesty


_____, J.
Maupin


_____, J.
Douglas


_____, J.
Parraguirre

²We note, among other requirements, that Lee must, within 15 days from this order's date, wind up any pending matters concerning his clients. See SCR 115(3). And until the suspension is lifted, he is, moreover, prohibited from accepting any new client, case, or legal matter of any nature. See id.

³This constitutes our final order in this matter. Any new proceedings shall be filed under a new docket number.

cc: Howard Miller, Chair, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board
Rob W. Bare, Bar Counsel
Wayne Blevins, Executive Director
Law Office of Benson Lee, Esq.
Perry Thompson, Admissions Office, U.S. Supreme Court