Contact the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel at 877-953-5535, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals at 512-427-1578 or txboda.org, or the State Commission on Judicial Conduct at 512-463-5533. Some attorneys might share the same or similar names. To identify an attorney, please verify using that attorney's bar card number. Go to texasbar.com and use the "Find a Lawyer" tool to search for an attorney.

JUDICIAL ACTIONS

To read the entire public sanctions, go to scjc.texas.gov.

On November 25, 2025, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct issued an inquiry concerning an order of suspension to **ALAN SHANE BRITTON,** judge of Brown County, Brownwood, Brown County.

On November 18, 2025, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct issued an inquiry concerning an order of suspension to **WILLIAM ROSS MITCHELL,** judge of Uvalde County, Uvalde, Uvalde County.

BODA

On November 5, 2025, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an agreed judgment of suspension in the reciprocal discipline case against Grapevine attorney **JOSEPH KENNETH LACOME** [#24083347]. On April 16, 2025, the presiding disciplinary judge for the Arizona Supreme Court issued an order accepting agreement for discipline by consent and a separate final judgment and order in a matter styled *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, JOSEPH LACOME, Bar No. 032676,* PDJ 2023-9099 accepting the parties' agreement for discipline by consent, ordering LaCome suspended for six months and ordering that LaCome resign from the State Bar of Arizona immediately upon reinstatement from suspension. LaCome agreed his conduct included violations of CFR § 1003.102(k), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), (u), and (v) and Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, 1.2(a), 1.3, 1.4(a) and (b), 1.5(d)(3), 3.1, 3.3(a), 3.4(c), and 8.4(d). By agreement, he is suspended from the practice of law in Texas for six months, beginning November 5, 2025, and extending through April 4, 2026. BODA Case No. 71741.

On November 4, 2025, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered an agreed judgment of public reprimand in the reciprocal discipline case against Huntsville, Alabama, attorney **MATTHEW BRETT REEVES** [#24073353]. On July 23, 2025, a sanctions order was entered in a case styled *Frankie Johnson v. Jefferson S. Dunn, et al.,* Civil Action No.: 2:21-cv-1701-AMM in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Southern Division. The court found Reeves violated Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and issued a public reprimand. BODA Case No. 72009.

On February 5, 2025, the Board of Disciplinary Appeals entered a judgment of disbarment against Houston attorney **WILLIAM TOPP MAXWELL** [#24028775]. On August 11, 2015, an amended judgment (as to forfeiture) in a criminal case was entered in Case No. 1:11-CR-00740 (03), styled *United States of America v. William Maxwell,* in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, wherein Maxwell was found guilty of racketeering conspiracy, conspiracy to commit securities fraud, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy to commit money laundering, conspiracy to obstruct justice, and conspiracy to sell or transfer firearms and ammunition to a prohibited person. He was sentenced to prison for 240 months followed by three years of supervised release. These offenses constitute intentional and serious crimes as defined by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. The judgment follows an interlocutory order of suspension entered by the board on February 2, 2016. Maxwell appealed BODA's judgment to the Supreme Court of Texas in Case No. 25-0191. On October 24, 2025, the court affirmed the judgment. BODA Case No. 56591.

RESIGNATION

On September 19, 2025, the Supreme Court of Texas accepted the resignation, in lieu of discipline, of **ALFONSO KENNARD JR.** [#24036888], of Houston. At the time of his resignation, there were 11 pending disciplinary actions alleging that Kennard neglected his clients' cases; limited the scope of the representation without client consent; failed to keep his clients reasonably informed about the status of their cases and failed to promptly comply with his clients' reasonable requests for information; failed to explain matters to the extent reasonably necessary to permit his clients to make informed decisions; entered into arrangements for, charged, or collected illegal fees or unconscionable fees; knowingly revealed confidential client information; failed to promptly deliver client funds; failed to refund advance payments of fees not earned to his clients; threatened to present criminal charges against a complainant in a bar disciplinary proceeding solely to prevent participation by the complainant; committed a serious crime or any other

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criminal act that reflected adversely on his honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer in other respects; engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation; violated a disciplinary judgment; failed to respond to grievances; failed to notify clients of his cessation of practice; and engaged in the practice of law while suspended.

Kennard allegedly violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.01(b)(2), 1.02(b), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.04(a), 1.05(b)(1)(ii), 1.14(b), 1.15(d), 4.04(b)(2), 8.04(a)(2), 8.04(a)(3), 8.04(a)(7), 8.04(a)(8), 8.04(a)(10), and 8.04(a)(11).

SUSPENSIONS

On October 23, 2025, **DAMON ALEXANDER GOFF** [#24096552], of Austin, received a 24-month partially probated suspension beginning October 16, 2025, and ending October 15, 2027. The issuance of the suspension was related to nine disciplinary complaints filed against him, predominantly by his former clients, and actively suspends Goff from the practice of law for a period of three months beginning October 16, 2025, and ending January 15, 2026. The subsequent 21-month period of probated suspension shall begin on January 16, 2026, and end on October 15, 2027. An evidentiary panel of the District 9 Grievance Committee found that in seven of the nine disciplinary complaints, Goff failed to keep his clients informed about the status of their legal matters and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information. Additionally, the panel found Goff failed to properly hold funds and other property belonging to his clients and/or third persons and failed to promptly notify his clients when he received funds. In two of the nine disciplinary matters, the panel found that Goff neglected his clients' legal matters and failed to explain the matters to his clients in a manner that would permit his clients to make informed decisions about their case. Further, the panel found Goff failed to timely furnish to the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel or a district grievance committee a response to those two disciplinary complaints as required by the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

Goff was found to have violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.14(a), 1.14(b), and 8.04(a)(8). Goff was ordered to pay $20,020.18 in attorneys' fees and restitution to any clients owed restitution after the completion of a CPA audit.

On November 1, 2025, **JAMES BRANDON GAINES** [#24077991], of Lubbock, accepted a seven-month fully probated suspension effective November 1, 2025. An investigatory panel of the District 16 Grievance Committee found that Gaines failed to withdraw from the client's legal matter after his physical, mental, or psychological condition materially impaired his fitness to represent the client.

Gaines violated Rule 1.16(a)(2). He agreed to pay $1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On October 30, 2025, **NORMAN H. EWERT** [#06754500], of Dallas, received an 18-month judgment of fully probated suspension. An evidentiary panel of the District 6 Grievance Committee found that on or around September 2021, Ewert was hired by the complainant for representation in a divorce matter. The complainant paid Ewert at least $2,500 for representation. Ewert neglected the legal matter entrusted to him by failing to perform work on the case and failed to appear for a court hearing scheduled for May 20, 2022, regarding temporary orders. Ewert failed to explain the divorce matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the complainant to make informed decisions regarding the representation. Upon termination of representation, Ewert failed to refund advance payments of fees that had not been earned.

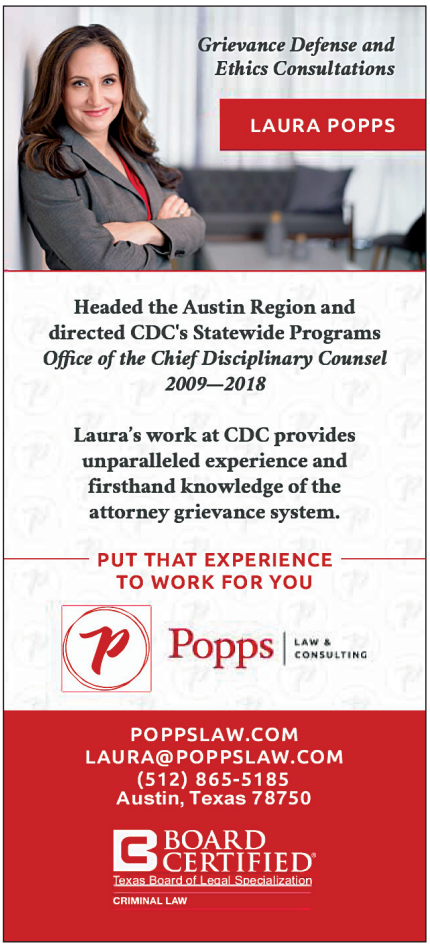
Ewert violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(b), and 1.15(d). He was ordered to pay $1,000 in restitution, $1,620 in attorneys' fees, and $726.45 in direct expenses.

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS

On September 8, 2025, **ALFONSO KENNARD JR.** [#24036888], of Houston, received a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 4 Grievance Committee found that Kennard failed to respond to the grievance.

Kennard violated Rule 8.04(a)(8). He was ordered to pay $4,550 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On November 7, 2025, **ROBIN NICHOLE FORSYTHE** [#24113565], of Plano, agreed to a judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that on November 6, 2023, the complainant hired Forsythe to represent her in an estate matter involving the creation of a trust account. Forsythe failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed about the status of her estate matter and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant. Forsythe



failed to explain the estate matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the complainant to make informed decisions regarding the representation. In February 2024, the complainant was informed that the trust application had been filed with the court. Subsequently, the complainant became aware that the application was not filed with the court, and Forsythe transferred her case to another attorney without her consent in writing. During the representation, Forsythe made false statements of material facts. Forsythe also failed to disclose how the fee would be divided and did not provide the complainant with a refund. Furthermore, Forsythe did not withdraw from the case even though she was experiencing personal issues that materially impaired her fitness to represent the complainant.

Forsythe violated Rules 1.03(a), 1.03(b), 1.04(f)(1)(ii), 1.04(f)(2)(iii), 1.15(a)(2), 1.15(d), and 8.04(a)(3). She was ordered to pay $750 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On November 10, 2025, **ROBIN NICHOLE FORSYTHE** [#24113565], of Plano, agreed to a judgment of public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 1 Grievance Committee found that on May 3, 2023, the complainant hired Forsythe to represent him and his wife in a probate matter concerning the estate of his late mother-in-law. Forsythe neglected the legal matter entrusted to her by failing to file his late mother-in-law's will and failed to return a notarized affidavit to him. The complainant communicated with Forsythe's assistant and Forsythe's former associate attorney, who failed to provide him with case updates. Forsythe is a supervising lawyer and knowingly permitted her former associate attorney's conduct that violated the Texas Rules of Professional Conduct. Forsythe failed to keep the complainant reasonably informed and failed to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information from the complainant. Forsythe also failed to file a response to the grievance.

Forsythe violated Rules 1.01(b)(1), 1.03(a), 5.01(a), and 8.04(a)(8). She was ordered to pay $4,000 in restitution and $750 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

On November 20, 2025, **KIMBERLY DEMETRICE FRENCH** [#24074763], of The Woodlands, accepted a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 3 Grievance Committee found that during the pendency of a case, French used means that had no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person.

French violated Rule 4.04(a). She agreed to pay $1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

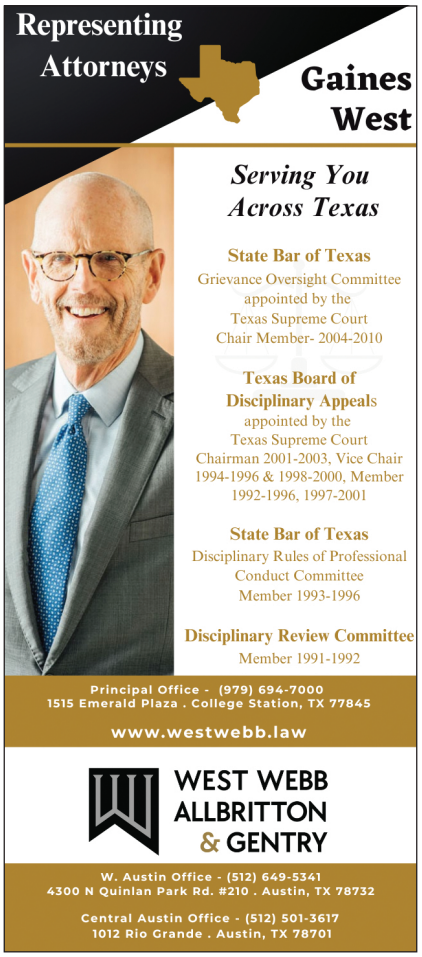
On November 18, 2025, **ARMANDO JAVIER ROMAN** [#24046752], of San Antonio, accepted a public reprimand. An evidentiary panel of the District 10 Grievance Committee found that Roman charged and collected an unconscionable fee.

Roman violated Rule 1.04(a). He agreed to pay $1,000 in attorneys' fees and direct expenses.

PRIVATE REPRIMANDS

Listed here is a breakdown of Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct violations for one attorney, with the number in parentheses indicating the frequency of the violation.

1.01(b)(1)—In representing a client, a lawyer shall not neglect a legal matter entrusted to the lawyer (1).

1.03(a)—A lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information (1).

1.03(b)—Failing to explain a legal matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit a client to make informed decisions regarding the representation (1). **TBJ**