

THOMAS K. OKAI
(Resignation in Lieu of Discipline)

On July 28, 2010, the Idaho Supreme Court entered an Order accepting the resignation in lieu of discipline of Thomas K. Okai, of Ontario, Oregon. The Idaho Supreme Court's Order followed a stipulated resolution of a formal charge disciplinary proceeding requesting disbarment and related to the following conduct.

Mr. Okai was previously admitted to practice law in Oregon and on April 22, 2009, the Oregon Supreme Court issued an Order suspending Mr. Okai from the practice of law in Oregon for a period of four years. Mr. Okai has been an inactive member of the Idaho State Bar and has not engaged in the practice of law in Idaho since March 2007. The Oregon proceedings and the admissions to the allegations in the Idaho disciplinary case related to five different matters. In the first matter, Mr. Okai failed to appear on behalf of his client. In the second matter, Mr. Okai admitted there was a significant risk that his representation of a client would be materially limited by his interest in obtaining prescription drugs from that client. In the third matter, Mr. Okai failed to act diligently and reasonably communicate with his client about the status of his client's matters. In the fourth matter, Mr. Okai failed to render an accounting for and refund an unearned portion of a client's fees. In the fifth matter, Mr. Okai pled guilty to two criminal charges, theft relating to insufficient funds to cover checks that he had written and possession of methamphetamine.

Based upon the foregoing, Mr. Okai admitted the factual allegations contained in the Complaint in the Idaho disciplinary case and that he violated the Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct set forth in each of the five counts of the Complaint.

The Idaho Supreme Court accepted Mr. Okai's resignation effective July 28, 2010. By the terms of the Order, Mr. Okai may not make application for admission to the Idaho State Bar sooner than five years from the date of his resignation. If he does make such application for admission, he will be required to comply with all bar admission requirements found in Section II of the Idaho Bar Commission Rules and shall have the burden of overcoming the rebuttable presumption of "unfitness to practice law."

By the terms of the Idaho Supreme Court's Order, Mr. Okai's name was stricken from the records of the Idaho Supreme Court and his right to practice law before the courts in the State of Idaho was terminated on July 28, 2010.

Inquiries about this matter may be directed to: Bar Counsel, Idaho State Bar, P.O. Box 895, Boise, Idaho 83701, (208) 334-4500.