

BRIAN L. BOYLE
(Suspension)

On October 27, 2014, the Idaho Supreme Court issued a Disciplinary Order suspending Meridian attorney Brian L. Boyle from the practice of law for a period of 90 days, effective October 1, 2014. The Disciplinary Order included a withheld six-month suspension and a one-year disciplinary probation upon reinstatement.

The Idaho Supreme Court found that Mr. Boyle violated I.R.P.C. 1.2(a) [Scope of representation], 1.3 [Diligence], and 1.4 [Communication]. The Idaho Supreme Court's Disciplinary Order followed a stipulated resolution of an Idaho State Bar disciplinary proceeding in which Mr. Boyle admitted that he violated those rules.

The formal charge case related to Mr. Boyle's representation of a client who sought a guardianship of a disabled child. In that case, Mr. Boyle failed to promptly file the guardianship petition, failed to communicate with his client about the status of the case, and failed to communicate with the minor's appointed guardian ad litem. The client erroneously believed that she had been appointed as guardian. However, the Court had not appointed a guardian and instead scheduled a show cause hearing due to inactivity in the case. Approximately two months before the show cause hearing, the child died. At the show cause hearing, Mr. Boyle informed the Court that the child was still living and that his client wanted to be appointed guardian. After the hearing, the guardian ad litem contacted Mr. Boyle's client, learned that the child was deceased, and informed the Court. The case was ultimately dismissed.

The Disciplinary Order provides that 90 days of suspension will be served effective October 1, 2014, and six months will be withheld. Mr. Boyle will also serve a one-year probation following reinstatement, subject to conditions specified in the Order.

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