

FREDRICK W. FREEMAN

(Suspension, Withheld Suspension and Probation)

On August 9, 2018, the Idaho Supreme Court issued a Disciplinary Order suspending Boise attorney Fredrick W. Freeman for three years, with an additional two years of suspension withheld, and a two-year probation upon reinstatement to active status. The suspension is effective retroactively to February 7, 2018, the date Respondent transferred to inactive status and voluntarily ceased practicing law.

The Idaho Supreme Court found that Mr. Freeman violated I.R.P.C. 1.2(a) [Failure to Abide by Client Objectives], I.R.P.C. 1.3 [Failure to Act with Reasonable Diligence and Promptness], and I.R.P.C. 1.4 [Failure to Reasonably Communicate with Client] with respect to four different client matters that constituted the four counts in the Complaint. With respect to the first client matter, Mr. Freeman failed to file pleadings in the client's custody modification case, reasonably communicate with the client about the case status, and promptly respond to the client's inquiries. With respect to the second client matter, Mr. Freeman failed to timely serve discovery responses in the client's divorce case, timely file a responsive Affidavit to the opposing party's Motion for Temporary Orders, reasonably communicate with the client about the case status, and promptly respond to the client's inquiries. With respect to the third client matter, Mr. Freeman failed to promptly file the client's custody modification petition, timely serve discovery responses, reasonably communicate with the client about the case status, and promptly respond to the client's inquiries. With respect to the fourth client matter, Mr. Freeman failed to timely file the client's answer and counterclaim in a custody modification case, timely serve discovery responses, reasonably communicate with the client about the case status, and promptly respond to inquiries from the client's new attorney.

The Disciplinary Order provided that upon reinstatement to active status after the three-year suspension period, Mr. Freeman will serve a two-year probation subject to the terms and conditions of probation specified in the Order. Those conditions include that Mr. Freeman will serve two years of suspension if he admits or is found to have violated any of the Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct for which a public sanction is imposed for any conduct during his period of probation. In addition, Mr. Freeman must arrange for a supervising attorney to supervise his law practice during the probationary period.

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