

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

FILED

APR - 6 2017

U.S. COURT OF
FEDERAL CLAIMS

In the Matter of:

James Edward Griswold

No. 16-11200

FINAL ORDER

This action for reciprocal attorney discipline concerns James Edward Griswold, a member of the bar of the United States Court of Federal Claims. On June 6, 2016, the State Bar Court of California (“State Bar Court”) ordered that Mr. Griswold be involuntarily enrolled as an inactive member of the State Bar of California, and recommended that he be disbarred from the practice of law in the state of California. *See In Re James Edward Griswold*, No. 14-O-05677 (State Bar Court of CA filed Jun. 06, 2016). The State Bar Court noted that Mr. Griswold was charged with four counts of misconduct violating the California Rules of Professional Conduct and the Business and Professions Code for 1) improperly withdrawing from employment, 2) failing to obey a court order, 3) failing to cooperate with a disciplinary investigation, and 4) failing to update his membership address. *Id.* at 4. The State Bar Court further noted that “despite adequate notice and opportunity, [Mr. Griswold] failed to participate in [the] disciplinary proceeding” resulting in an entry of default and disbarment recommendation. *Id.* at 5. Mr. Griswold was subsequently disbarred from the practice of law in the state of California by order of the California Supreme Court on October 19, 2016. *See* Griswold on Discipline, No. S236823 (Cal. Oct. 19, 2016), http://appellatecases.courtinfo.ca.gov/search/case/dockets.cfm?dist=0&doc_id=2152973&doc_no=S236823.


Mr. Griswold has been a member of this court’s bar since July 20, 2001. Under Rule 83.2(c)(2) of the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims (“RCFC”), an attorney admitted to practice before this court may be disciplined on the grounds of an act or omission that results in the disbarment or suspension of the attorney by another court.

Furthermore, Mr. Griswold failed to promptly notify the court of his disbarment. His failure to notify this court is a violation of RCFC 83.2(e)(1), which requires an attorney admitted to practice before this court to notify the Clerk in writing within fourteen (14) days of the attorney’s disbarment or suspension by another court. Failure to do so is grounds for discipline under RCFC 83.2(c)(4).

Pursuant to RCFC Rule 83.2(g)(6), an Order to Show Cause was issued by this court on January 30, 2017, directing Mr. Griswold to show cause within thirty (30) days why the court should not impose discipline identical to that imposed by the California Supreme Court. To date, Mr. Griswold has failed to respond to the Order to Show Cause. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that James Edward Griswold shall be disbarred from practice before the United States Court of Federal Claims effective, *nunc pro tunc*, October 19, 2016, the date of his disbarment in California. Reinstatement is not automatic. The filing of any petition for reinstatement will be governed by RCFC 83.2(k)(1).


MARY ELLEN COSTER WILLIAMS
Judge


ELAINE D. KAPLAN
Judge


LYDIA KAY GRIGGSBY
Judge