

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA
(Before the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar)

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Petitioner,

v.

MARK P. STOPA,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case
No. SC13-1886

The Florida Bar File
Nos. 2012-11,175(12B) and
2013-10,440(12B)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Please state your full name and the place where you practice law.

Mr. Stopa, you have been ordered by the Supreme Court of Florida to receive a public reprimand before the assembled members of the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar.

By order of the Supreme Court of Florida dated June 19, 2014, you were found to have engaged in professional misconduct when:

In one matter, you represented Barry and June Schnieider in a foreclosure matter. Your office filed a Motion for Reconsideration of Continuance or Denial of Leave to Amend, requesting a continuance to permit your client to amend an answer that the client had previously filed *pro se*. You drafted the motion by oral direction without reflection and did not review or revise the work product once it was typed which subsequently was filed with the court by an associate attorney on your behalf. As a result, the motion that was filed contained inappropriate language and impugned on the integrity of the judge.

In a second matter, based on a judicial referral, it was alleged that you filed a motion that contained misleading statements and failed to inform the court of all material facts known to you regarding the

matter. You ultimately filed an amended motion and the opposing party agreed that you had not made any misrepresentations.

In addition to the administration of the public reprimand, the court also required you to attend Ethics School and undergo an evaluation to identify issues related to stress or any other issues.

Mr. Stopa, your actions and unethical behavior constitute violations of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Those rules include the Rules of Professional Conduct, and our code of ethics.

This **Public Reprimand** is now part of your permanent Florida Bar disciplinary record. You are further advised that while this Public Reprimand does not affect your privilege of practicing law, future misconduct will. The lawyers of Florida expect your future conduct to be in compliance with your oath and you should demand the same of yourself.

Done and Administered this 12th day of December, 2014

/s/

Gregory William Coleman
President
The Florida Bar