

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Petitioner,

v.

MICHAEL DENNIS WALSH,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case
No. SC-

The Florida Bar File
No. 2021-50,404(15A) OSC

PETITION FOR CONTEMPT AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

The Florida Bar, petitioner, pursuant to Rule 3-7.11(f), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, files this Petition for Contempt and Order to Show Cause, and states:

1. A copy of the Grievance Committee Finding of Non-Compliance and Failure to Respond to Official Bar Inquiry and Contempt concerning The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208(15A) is attached to this Petition as **"The Florida Bar's Exhibit 1"**.

2. As of the date of the service of this Petition, respondent has failed to respond to multiple official Bar inquiries.

3. The other members of The Florida Bar should not have to pay for respondent's failure to respond to an official bar inquiry and the initiation

of the instant proceeding. Therefore, the Bar is requesting administrative costs of \$1,250.00 against respondent.

WHEREFORE, The Florida Bar requests that this Court suspend respondent pursuant to Rule 3-7.11(f), until such time as respondent fully responds in writing to the official Bar inquiry contained in "The Florida Bar's Exhibit 1" and until further order of this Court.

Respectfully submitted,



Joi L. Pearsall
Bar Counsel
The Florida Bar
Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office
Lake Shore Plaza II
1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130
Sunrise, Florida 33323
(954) 835-0233
Florida Bar No.: 182427
jpearsall@floridabar.org

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that this Petition for Contempt and Order to Show Cause has been has been E-Filed with The Honorable John A. Tomasino, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Florida, using the E-Filing Portal; with a copy furnished by Regular United States Mail and via Certified Mail No. 7017 0530 0000 0474 9054, return receipt requested to Respondent Michael Dennis Walsh, at his record bar address Law Offices of Michael Walsh P.A., 5301 N Federal Hwy, Ste. 215, Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915, and by email to mwalsh5301@gmail.com; with a copy to Patricia Ann Toro Savitz, Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, by email to psavitz@floridabar.org, on this 10 day of February, 2021.



Joi L. Pearsall, Bar Counsel
The Florida Bar
Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office
Lake Shore Plaza II
1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130
Sunrise, Florida 33323
(954) 835-0233
Florida Bar No. 182427
jpearsall@floridabar.org

**NOTICE OF TRIAL COUNSEL AND DESIGNATION OF PRIMARY
EMAIL ADDRESS**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the trial counsel in this matter is Joi L. Pearsall, Bar Counsel, whose address, telephone number and primary email address are The Florida Bar, Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office, Lake Shore Plaza II, 1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130. Sunrise, Florida 33323, (954) 835-0233 and jpearsall@floridabar.org and esanchez@floridabar.org. Respondent need not address pleadings, correspondence, etc. in this matter to anyone other than trial counsel and to Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300, via email to psavitz@floridabar.org.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA
(Before a Grievance Committee)

THE FLORIDA BAR,
Complainant,

The Florida Bar File
No. 2021-50,208(15A)

v.

MICHAEL DENNIS WALSH,
Respondent.

**GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FINDING OF NON-COMPLIANCE AND
FAILURE TO RESPOND TO OFFICIAL BAR INQUIRY AND
CONTEMPT**

On January 13, 2021, pursuant to Rule 3-7.11(f), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee “A” considered whether to issue a Finding of Non-Compliance and Failure to Respond to Official Bar Inquiry and Finding of Contempt and made the following findings:

1. On October 9, 2020, The Florida Bar sent respondent a letter by regular U.S. Mail to respondent's record Florida bar address advising respondent of the complaint that was filed against him. The October 9, 2020 letter requested that respondent provide a written response by October 26, 2020. The October 9, 2020 letter also requested that his written response was required pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-8.4(g). A copy of the letter is attached hereto as "Exhibit A".
2. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the letter of October 9, 2020.

3. On November 3, 2020, The Florida Bar sent an email to respondent at his record bar email address, advising him that the bar had not received his response to the October 9, 2020 letter and directed respondent to provide his response by November 13, 2020. A copy of the email is attached hereto as "Exhibit B".

4. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the email of November 3, 2020.

5. On November 16, 2020, The Florida Bar sent a letter by certified U.S. Mail and regular U.S. Mail to respondent's record bar address, advising that the bar had not received respondent's written response to the complaint that was filed against him. Once again, the bar informed respondent that his written response was required pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-8.4(g). The bar also sent a copy of the November 16, 2020 letter to respondent's record bar email address. The November 16, 2020 letter informed the respondent that his response to the November 16, 2020 letter was due by November 30, 2020. A copy of the November 16, 2020 letter is attached hereto as "Exhibit C" and a copy of the signed certified mail receipt is attached hereto as "Exhibit D".

6. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the letter of November 16, 2020.

7. Respondent was given notice that on January 13, 2021, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee “A” would hold a hearing on the Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt. A copy of the Notice of Hearing and the Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt was sent by email to respondent’s record bar email address and by mail to his record bar mailing address by certified U.S. Mail and regular U.S. mail. A copy of the Notice of Hearing and Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt are attached hereto as “Composite Exhibit E”.

8. Respondent made no response to the Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt.

9. As of the date of this Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt, Respondent has failed to respond to the official Bar inquiries dated October 9, 2020, November 3, 2020 and November 16, 2020.

10. The Grievance Committee found that Respondent failed to show good cause for failing to respond to the official Bar inquiries and that the non-compliance was willful.

11. The Grievance Committee found Respondent to be in contempt and requested The Florida Bar to file a Petition for Contempt and Order to Show Cause with the Supreme Court.

Dated this 19th day of January, 2021.

Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance
Committee "A"



Sarah Cortvriend, Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original hereof has been furnished by regular U.S. Mail to, Michael Dennis Walsh, 5301 N Federal Hwy., Ste 215, Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915 and via e-mail to mwalsh5301@gmail.com; via email to Ronald Peter Ponzoli Jr., Designated Reviewer, at ron.ponzoli@gray-robinson.com and to Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300 via e-mail at psavitz@floridabar.org, this 22 day of January, 2021.



Joi L. Pearsall, Bar Counsel



The Florida Bar

651 East Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

Joshua E. Doyle
Executive Director

850/561-5600
www.FLORIDABAR.org

October 9, 2020

Mr. Michael Dennis Walsh
5301 N Federal Hwy Ste 215
Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915

Re: Complaint by Jennifer Blackwell against Michael Dennis Walsh
The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A)

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Enclosed is a copy of an inquiry/complaint and any supporting documents submitted by the above referenced complainant(s). Your response to this complaint is required under the provisions of Rule 4-8.4(g), Rules of Professional Conduct of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, and is due in our office by **October 26, 2020**. **Responses should not exceed 25 pages** and may refer to any additional documents or exhibits that are available on request. Failure to provide a written response to this complaint is in itself a violation of Rule 4-8.4(g). Please note that any correspondence must be sent through the U.S. mail; we cannot accept faxed material. **You are further required to furnish the complainant with a complete copy of your written response, including any documents submitted therewith.**

Pursuant to Rule 3-7.1(f), Rules of Discipline, you are further required to complete and return the enclosed Certificate of Disclosure form.

Finally, the filing of this complaint does not preclude communication between the attorney and the complainant(s). Please review the enclosed Notice for information on submitting your response.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Coombs, Bar Counsel
Attorney Consumer Assistance Program
ACAP Hotline 866-352-0707

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Jennifer Blackwell

Exhibit A

Pursuant to Rule 3-7.1(f) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, you must execute the applicable section of this form and return it to my attention. The rule provides that the nature of the charges be described in the notice to your firm or you may attach a copy of the complaint.

CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _____ day of _____, 20____, a true copy of the foregoing disclosure was furnished to _____, a member of my present law firm of _____, and, if different, to _____, a member of the law firm of _____, with which I was associated at the time of the act(s) giving rise to the complaint in The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A).

Michael Dennis Walsh

CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE
(Corporate/Government Employment)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _____ day of _____, 20____, a true copy of the foregoing disclosure was furnished to _____, my supervisor at _____ (name of agency), with which I was associated at the time of the act(s) giving rise to the complaint in The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A).

Michael Dennis Walsh

CERTIFICATE OF NON-LAW FIRM AFFILIATION
(Sole Practitioner)

I HEREBY CERTIFY to The Florida Bar on this _____ day of _____, 20____, that I am not presently affiliated with a law firm and was not affiliated with a law firm at the time of the act(s) giving rise to the complaint in The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A).

Michael Dennis Walsh

NOTICE OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

1. The enclosed letter is an official inquiry by bar counsel. Your response is required under Rule 4-8.4(g) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Rule 4-8.4(g)(1) and (2) require that a lawyer submit a written response within 15 days to an initial inquiry and within 10 days to any follow-up inquiry made by bar counsel, the grievance committee or the board of governors during the course of an investigation of the lawyer's conduct. If you do not respond, the matter will be forwarded to the grievance committee for disposition in accordance with Rule 3-7.3. Failure to respond may also be a matter of contempt and processed in accordance with Rule 3-7.11(f).
2. Many inquiries considered first by staff counsel are not forwarded to a grievance committee, as they do not involve violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct justifying disciplinary action.
3. Pursuant to Rule 3-7.1, any reports, correspondence, papers, recordings and/or transcripts of hearings submitted by you in this matter shall become accessible to the public upon dismissal or a decision by the grievance committee. Please advise Bar Counsel if you believe any material provided to The Florida Bar is confidential under applicable law and identify the basis of your claim that the material is confidential. Please note that The Florida Bar is required to acknowledge the status of proceedings during the pendency of an investigation, if a specific inquiry is made and the matter is deemed to be in the public domain.
4. The grievance committee is the Bar's "grand jury." Proceedings before the grievance committee are non-adversarial in nature. The grievance committee's function and procedures are set forth in Rule 3-7.4.
5. If the grievance committee finds probable cause, formal adversarial proceedings before the Supreme Court of Florida will be initiated pursuant to Rule 3-7.6. A referee will make a recommendation as to guilt and discipline to The Supreme Court of Florida, unless a plea is submitted pursuant to Rule 3-7.9.



The Florida Bar

651 East Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

Joshua E. Doyle
Executive Director

850/561-5600
www.FLORIDABAR.org

October 9, 2020

Ms. Jennifer Blackwell
14114 Frost Drive
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739

Re: Michael Dennis Walsh; The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A)

Dear Ms. Blackwell:

Enclosed is a copy of our letter to Mr. Walsh which requires a response to your complaint.

Once you receive Mr. Walsh's response, you have 10 days to file a rebuttal if you so desire. **If you decide to file a rebuttal, you must send a copy to Mr. Walsh.** Rebuttals should not exceed 25 pages and may refer to any additional documents or exhibits that are available on request. Please address any and all correspondence to me. Please note that any correspondence must be sent through the U.S. mail; we cannot accept faxed material.

It is important that you keep The Florida Bar informed of any changes to your contact information.

Please be advised that as an arm of the Supreme Court of Florida, The Florida Bar can investigate allegations of misconduct against attorneys, and where appropriate, request that the attorney be disciplined. The Florida Bar cannot render legal advice nor can The Florida Bar represent individuals or intervene on their behalf in any civil or criminal matter.

Please review the enclosed Notice on mailing instructions for information on submitting your rebuttal.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Coombs, Bar Counsel
Attorney Consumer Assistance Program
ACAP Hotline 866-352-0707

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Michael Dennis Walsh

NOTICE OF GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

1. The enclosed letter is an informal inquiry. Your response is required under the provisions of The Rules Regulating The Florida Bar 4 8.4(g), Rules of Professional Conduct. Failure to provide a written response to this complaint is in itself a violation of Rule 4 8.4(g). If you do not respond, the matter will be forwarded to the grievance committee for disposition in accordance with Rule 3-7.3 of the Rules of Discipline.
2. Many complaints considered first by staff counsel are not forwarded to a grievance committee, as they do not involve violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct justifying disciplinary action.
3. “Pursuant to Rule 3-7.1(a), Rules of Discipline, any response by you in these proceedings shall become part of the public record of this matter and thereby become accessible to the public upon the closure of the case by Bar counsel or upon a finding of no probable cause, probable cause, minor misconduct, or recommendation of diversion. Disclosure during the pendency of an investigation may be made only as to status if a specific inquiry concerning this case is made and if this matter is generally known to be in the public domain.”
4. The grievance committee is the Bar’s “grand jury.” Its function and procedure are set forth in Rule 3-7.4. Proceedings before the grievance committee, for the most part, are non-adversarial in nature. However, you should carefully review Chapter 3 of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.
5. If the grievance committee finds probable cause, formal adversarial proceedings, which ordinarily lead to disposition by the Supreme Court of Florida, will be commenced under 3-7.6, unless a plea is submitted under Rule 3-7.9.

Received Tue 11/03/2020 8:58AM
From ACAP Mail
Subject 202150208
To mwalsh5301@gmail.com
cc
bcc

Blackwell v Walsh.pdf	Walsh Complaint letter.pdf
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Good morning Mr. Walsh: Please be advised that you were sent a complaint dated October 9, 2020 with a response due by October 26, 2020. A copy is attached for convenience. We have not gotten your response or had any contact from you. Please provide a response to the above referenced complaint by **November 13, 2020**. You may provide your response as a PDF document attached in response to this email. Please note that this email account is strictly for the submission of correspondence to ACAP/Intake. Only your attachments will be imported to the case file, so please ensure that you have not included any substantive information in the body of your email as it will not be saved. Your attachments in total should not exceed 25 typewritten pages and should be in Word, Excel or .pdf formats only. **No .jpeg, .mov, .tif, or other file formats will be accepted.** Your failure to follow these instructions may delay the review of your file.

Best regards,

Rich Coombs

Richard W. Coombs
Senior Attorney
THE FLORIDA BAR
651 E. Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
ACAP Hotline: 866-352-0707



The Florida Bar

Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office
Lake Shore Plaza II
1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130
Sunrise, Florida 33323
(954) 835-0233

Joshua E. Doyle
Executive Director

850/561-5600
www.FLORIDABAR.org

November 16, 2020

VIA E-Mail to mwalsh5301@gmail.com

VIA U.S. MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT
REQUESTED #7017 0530 0000 0474 8989

Mr. Michael Dennis Walsh
5301 N Federal Hwy Ste 215
Boca Raton, FL 334874915

Re: Complaint of Jennifer Blackwell against Michael Dennis Walsh
The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208 (15A)

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Enclosed you will find correspondence dated October 9, 2020, requiring a response. An inquiry/bar complaint that was filed against you by Jennifer Blackwell. A copy of that complaint was sent to you by mail to your record Bar address along with a copy of the October 9, 2020 letter. To date, the bar has not received your written response. The bar also sent an email to your record bar email address on November 3, 2020 informing you that your written response to the inquiry/complaint that was due on October 26, 2020 had not been received. Another copy of the complaint is enclosed with this letter.

In addition, please also respond to the following questions:

1) The complainant provided a copy of the written retainer agreement with her inquiry/complaint. According to that written retainer agreement "Brent Blackwell (client) retains and employs the Law Offices of Michael Walsh, P.A. (Firm) in all matters concerning his cases (Cases #F-19-017290, F-19-017290 and F-10-009307) in Miami Dade County, Florida."

(A) In the State of Florida v Brent Blackwell, Miami-Dade County case no. F-19-017290, please provide the following:

- (1) A copy of the notice of appearance that you filed in November 2020.
- (2) A copy of the 8/11/2020 order granting the motion for continuance.

Exhibit C

THE FLORIDA BAR

(3) A copy of the September 2020 (9/14/2020) Motion to Continue Sounding Emergency Motion filed in case F19009307.

(4) A copy of the 10/6/20 Motion to Withdraw and a copy of the Order granting the Motion to Withdraw.

(B) In the State of Florida v Brent Blackwell, Miami-Dade County case no. F-19-017289, please provide the following:

(1) A copy of the notice of appearance that you filed in November 2020.

(2) A copy of the Motion(s) for Bond or House Arrest listed on the docket at March 18, 2020 and any Order(s) issued on the Motion(s) for Bond or House Arrest.

(3) A copy of the September 2020 (9/14/2020) Motion to Continue Sounding Emergency Motion filed in case F19009307.

(4) A copy of the 10/6/2020 Motion to Withdraw and a copy of the Order granting the Motion to Withdraw.

(C) In the State of Florida v Brent Blackwell, Miami-Dade County case no. F-19-009307, please provide the following:

(1) A copy of the notice of appearance that you filed in November 2020.

(2) A copy of the September 2020 (9/14/2020) Emergency Motion to Continue Sounding.

(3) A copy of the 10/6/2020 Motion to Withdraw and a copy of the Order granting the Motion to Withdraw.

Your written response is required under the provisions of Rule 4-8.4(g) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Please send all **new** correspondence in this matter, referencing the above case number to the attention of the undersigned preferably by email to my assistant esanchez@floridabar.org or by mail to The Florida Bar, 1300 Concord Terrace, Ste. 130, Sunrise, FL 33323. You are further required to furnish the complainant with a complete copy of your written response. If your response is not received by **November 30, 2020**, this matter may be forwarded to the grievance committee for further investigation.

Sincerely,



Joi L. Pearsall
Bar Counsel

JP/jp

Enclosure

cc: Jennifer Blackwell, Complainant

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Michael Dennis Walsh
 5301 N Federal Hwy., Ste. 215
 Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915



9590 9402 3185 7166 3640 20

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7017 0530 0000 0474 8989

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature Agent
 Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery
 11/23/20

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes
 If YES, enter delivery address below: No

3. Service Type
- Adult Signature
 - Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
 - Certified Mail®
 - Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
 - Collect on Delivery
 - Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
 - Insured Mail
 - Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)
 - Priority Mail Express®
 - Registered Mail™
 - Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
 - Return Receipt for Merchandise
 - Signature Confirmation™
 - Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

USPS TRACKING#



9590 9402 3185 7166 3640 20

First-Class Mail
 Postage & Fees Paid
 USPS
 Permit No. G-10

United States
 Postal Service

RECEIVED

NOV 23 2020

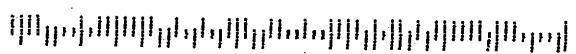
THE FLORIDA BAR
 FORT LAUDERDALE OFFICE

3-289930

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4® in this box•

The Florida Bar
 Lake Shore Plaza II, Suite 130
 1300 Concord Terrace
 Sunrise, Florida 33323

JP. 2021-50, 208





The Florida Bar

Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office
Lake Shore Plaza II
1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130
Sunrise, Florida 33323
(954) 835-0233

Joshua E. Doyle
Executive Director

850/561-5600
www.FLORIDABAR.org

December 9, 2020

Via E-mail to mwalsh5301@gmail.com

Via U.S. Mail and Via Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested #7017 0530 0000 0474 9467

Mr. Michael Dennis Walsh
5301 N Federal Hwy., Ste. 215
Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915

Re: Complaint by Jennifer Blackwell against Michael Dennis Walsh
The Florida Bar File No. 2021-50,208(15A)

Dear Mr. Walsh:

This letter is to advise you that the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "A" will consider the above-referenced case on **January 13, 2021**, pursuant to Rule 3-7.4, Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. The matter to be heard is the **Request For Issuance of Notice of Non-Compliance and Finding of Contempt**.

You have the opportunity to make a written statement, sworn or unsworn, explaining, refuting or admitting the alleged misconduct. This statement must be received by me no later than 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. Pursuant to Rules Regulating The Florida Bar 3-7.4, the respondent has no right to personally appear before the committee. You may request permission to appear before the committee by submitting a written detailed explanation of the need for a hearing which must include a summary of the information anticipated to be developed through personal appearance. The rules do not allow for any right of appeal of the committee's decision allowing or disallowing a personal appearance.

Sincerely,

Joi L. Pearsall
Bar Counsel

Enclosure: Grievance Committee Roster

cc: Jennifer Blackwell, Complainant
Sarah Cortvriend, Chair
Ronald Peter Ponzoli Jr., Designated Reviewer

Composite Exhibit E

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE "A"

Sarah Cortvriend, Esq. Chair

Kristin Nicole Solomon, Esq., Vice Chair

Richard S. Bernstein (NL)

Kara Berard Rockenbach, Esq.

Marlene Clarke (NL)

Larry “Donny” Murrell, Jr., Esq.

Delta A. Nagele (NL)

NOTE:

The above list of grievance committee members is furnished in accordance with Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, chapter 3, Rule 3-7.4, solely for the purpose of determining whether a basis for recusal may exist with respect to any particular member or members of the grievance committee who may hear the matter under consideration. Rule 3-3.4(c) precludes a member of a grievance committee from performing a grievance committee function when that member: (1) is related by blood or marriage to the complainant or respondent; (2) has a financial, business, property or personal interest in the matter under consideration, or with the complainant or respondent; (3) has a personal interest which could be affected by the outcome of the proceedings or which could affect the outcome; or (4) is prejudiced or biased toward either the complainant or the respondent. The individual members of the grievance committee, other than the investigating member, should not be contacted concerning the merits of the matter under consideration. If you determine that a member of the grievance committee should recuse himself or herself from hearing the matter under consideration, you should contact the staff attorney with The Florida Bar who is assigned your file and the grievance committee chair.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA
(Before a Grievance Committee)

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Complainant,

The Florida Bar File
No. 2021-50,208 (15A)

v.

MICHAEL DENNIS WALSH,

Respondent.

**REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
AND FINDING OF CONTEMPT**

Pursuant to Rule 3-7.11(f)(2), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, the undersigned Bar Counsel requests that on **January 13, 2021**, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee “A”, hear the issue of whether respondent shall be found in contempt for failure to respond to an official Bar inquiry without good cause shown and states the following:

1. Respondent was admitted to The Florida Bar on August 26, 1999.
2. On October 9, 2020, The Florida Bar sent a letter by regular U.S. Mail to respondent's record Bar address Law Offices of Michael Walsh, P.A., 5301 N. Federal Hwy, Ste. 215, Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915, advising respondent of the bar complaint that was filed against him in this case. The October 9, 2020 letter requested that respondent provide a written response to the Bar’s letter of inquiry by October 26, 2020 and informed respondent that his written response was required pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-8.4(g). A copy of the October 9,

2020 letter is attached hereto as "Exhibit A".

3. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the letter of October 9, 2020.

1. On November 3, 2020, The Florida Bar sent an email to respondent at his record bar email address mwalsh5301@gmail.com, advising him that the Bar had not received his response to the October 9, 2020 letter and directing respondent to provide his response to the complaint by November 13, 2020. A copy of the November 3, 2020 email is attached hereto as "Exhibit B".

2. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the email of November 3, 2020.

3. On November 16, 2020, the Bar sent another letter to respondent advising respondent that the Bar had not received his response to the bar complaint and that his written response to the complaint was due by November 30, 2020. The November 16, 2020 letter was sent to respondent by email to his record bar email address and to his record bar mailing address via certified mail and regular U.S. Mail. The November 16, 2020 letter also informed respondent that his written response was required pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-8.4(g). A copy of the November 16, 2020 letter is attached hereto as "Exhibit C" and a copy of the signed certified mail return receipt is attached as "Exhibit D".

4. Respondent failed to respond to The Florida Bar as requested in the letter of November 16, 2020.

5. As of the date of this Request for Issuance of Notice of Non-

Compliance and Finding of Contempt, the respondent has willfully failed to respond to an official Bar inquiry without good cause.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned Bar Counsel respectfully requests that this Grievance Committee issue its findings as to whether respondent has willfully failed to respond to an official Bar inquiry and whether respondent should be held in contempt for failure to respond to an official Bar inquiry.

Respectfully submitted,



Joi L. Pearsall, Bar Counsel
The Florida Bar
Ft. Lauderdale Branch Office
Lake Shore Plaza II
1300 Concord Terrace, Suite 130
Sunrise, Florida 33323
(954) 835-0233
Florida Bar No.: 182427
jpearsall@floridabar.org

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify this document has been furnished by Certified Return Receipt Mail #7017 0530 0000 0474 9467, regular U.S. Mail to Michael Dennis Walsh, 5301 N. Federal Hwy., Ste. 215, Boca Raton, FL 33487-4915 and by email to mwalsh5301@gmail.com; and via email to Sarah Cortvriend, Chair at scortvriend@gmail.com; via email to Ronald Peter Ponzoli Jr., Designated Reviewer, at ron.ponzoli@gray-robinson.com and to Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300 via email at psavitz@floridabar.org, dated this 9 day of December, 2020.



Joi L. Pearsall, Bar Counsel