

FILED

AUG 17 2021

CLERK OF COURT
SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

The Supreme Court of Ohio

Case No. 2021-0442

Disciplinary Counsel,
Relator,
v.
Bruce Alan Winters,
Respondent.

ON CERTIFIED REPORT BY THE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL
CONDUCT OF THE SUPREME COURT

ORDER

The Board of Professional Conduct filed its final report in this court on April 9, 2021, recommending that pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(12)(A)(3), respondent, Bruce Alan Winters, be suspended from the practice of law for six months, with the suspension stayed in its entirety on conditions. No objections to said final report were filed, and this cause was considered by the court.

On consideration thereof, it is ordered and adjudged by this court that pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(12)(A)(3) and consistent with the opinion rendered herein, respondent, Bruce Alan Winters, Attorney Registration No. 0039779, last known business address in Port Clinton, Ohio, is suspended from the practice of law in Ohio for six months, with the entire suspension stayed on the conditions that respondent (1) complete a minimum of three hours of continuing judicial education approved by relator on the subject of ex parte communications or appropriate use of social media by judicial officers, in addition to the requirements of Gov.Jud.R. IV, (2) refrain from further misconduct, and (3) pay the costs of these proceedings. It is further ordered that if respondent fails to comply with any condition of the stay, the stay will be lifted and respondent will serve the entire six-month suspension.

It is further ordered that the Office of Attorney Services shall not issue a certificate of good standing to respondent during any period of suspension, including any stayed period of suspension.

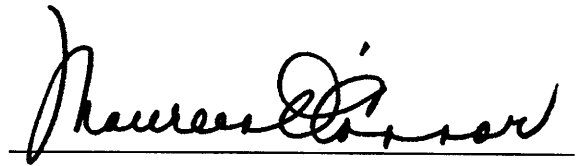
It is further ordered that respondent be taxed the costs of these proceedings in the amount of \$402.50, which costs shall be payable to this court by cashier's check or money order on or before 90 days from the date of this order. It is further ordered that if these costs are not paid in full on or before 90 days from the date of this order, interest at the rate of 10% per annum shall accrue as of 90 days from the date of this order and the matter may be referred to the Attorney General for collection. It is further ordered that respondent is liable for all collection costs pursuant to R.C. 131.02 if the debt is certified to the Attorney General for collection. It is further ordered that if costs are not paid in full on or before 90 days from the date of this order, respondent may be held in contempt and suspended until costs and all accrued interest are paid in full.

It is further ordered by the court that within 90 days of the date of this order, respondent shall reimburse any amounts that have been awarded against respondent by the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection pursuant to Gov.Bar R. VIII(7)(F). It is further ordered by the court that if after the date of this order the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection awards any amount against respondent pursuant to Gov.Bar R. VIII(7)(F), respondent shall reimburse that amount to the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection within 90 days of the notice of such award.

It is further ordered that respondent shall keep the clerk and disciplinary counsel advised of any change of address where respondent may receive communications.

It is further ordered that service shall be deemed made on respondent by sending this order, and all other orders in this case, to respondent's last known address.

It is further ordered that the clerk of this court issue certified copies of this order as provided for in Gov.Bar R. V(17)(E)(1) and that publication be made as provided for in Gov.Bar R. V(17)(E)(2).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen O'Connor", written over a horizontal line.

Maureen O'Connor
Chief Justice