

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

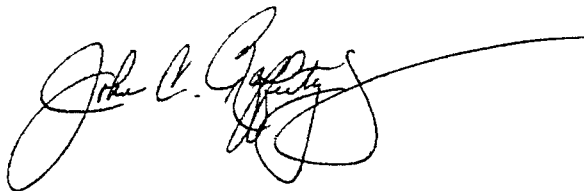
OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL :
Petitioner :
v. : No. 38 DB 2024
ANDREW B. SHAW : Attorney Registration No. 37669
Respondent : (Philadelphia)

ORDER

AND NOW, this 5th day of April, 2024, in accordance with Rule 215(g), Pa.R.D.E., the three-member Panel of the Disciplinary Board having reviewed and approved the Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent filed in the above captioned matter; it is

ORDERED that ANDREW B. SHAW be subjected to a **PUBLIC REPRIMAND** by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as provided in Rule 204(a) and Rule 205(c)(9) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

BY THE BOARD:



Board Chair

TRUE COPY FROM RECORD
Attest:



Marcee D. Sloan
Board Prothonotary
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

**BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,	:	No. 38 DB 2024
Petitioner	:	
	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	Attorney Registration No. 37669
ANDREW B. SHAW,	:	
Respondent	:	(Philadelphia)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Andrew B. Shaw, you appear before the Disciplinary Board for the imposition of a Public Reprimand ordered by the Board on April 5, 2024. You consented to this discipline by way of a Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent Pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 215(d), filed with the Board on March 21, 2024.

It is an unpleasant task to publicly reprimand one who has been granted the privilege of membership in the bar of the Commonwealth. Yet as repugnant as this task may be, it has been found necessary that you receive this public discipline.

Attorney Shaw, the record demonstrates that you engaged in misconduct in while representing your client, Shakira Teagle, in a dispute over a wedding gown that concerned the completion of the gown and the timing of delivery. On or about April 21, 2022, you filed a summons and complaint on behalf of your client in Philadelphia Municipal Court and sent a copy to the defendant by certified mail, return receipt requested, but never received a signed return receipt showing delivery. The U.S. Postal Service online tracking showed that the summons and complaint were returned unclaimed; however, you claim that you never received back the unclaimed certified mail. Thereafter, on May 18, 2022, you signed and filed with the court an Affidavit of

Service by Mail, which stated that “a copy of the return receipt is attached to this affidavit.” The purported “return receipt” that you attached to the Affidavit was merely a receipt showing you had sent the summons and complaint by certified mail, return receipt requested. In fact, no signed return receipt ever existed, and when you signed the Affidavit, you knew you did not possess a signed return receipt.

At a call of the list on June 2, 2022, the trial commissioner stated to you, “On your testimony as Counsel, and as an Officer of the Court, you are stating that the regular mail that you also sent to the same address, did not come back to you?” You replied, “That’s correct.” On this basis, the trial commissioner entered default judgment in favor of your client and against the bridal company, even though you possessed no documentary proof, and provided none to the court, that you sent the complaint by regular mail. You never provided any documentation to Office of Disciplinary Counsel that you sent the summons and complaint by regular mail.

The owner of the bridal company petitioned to open the judgment and a hearing was held before a Municipal Court judge on October 18, 2023. At the hearing, the owner testified to a phone call she had with you on May 5, 2021, and in response to the owner’s questioning, you denied speaking with the owner. This was not true, as you now concede that the May 5, 2021 phone call took place. At the conclusion of the hearing, the judge granted the petition to open the judgment, vacated the default judgment, and granted judgment for the defendant.

By your conduct, you violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct (“RPC”):

1. RPC 4.1(a) – In the course of representing a client, a lawyer shall not knowingly make a false statement of material fact or law to a third person.

2. RPC 8.4(c) – It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.
3. RPC 8.4(d) – It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Attorney Shaw, your conduct in this matter is public. This Public Reprimand is a matter of public record and shall be posted on the Disciplinary Board's website at www.padisciplinaryboard.org.

It is the Board's duty to reprimand you for your misconduct. We note in mitigation that you have accepted full responsibility for your actions, expressed remorse, cooperated with Office of Disciplinary Counsel, have no record of discipline in 41 years of practice, and demonstrated significant charitable and community service. Please be aware that any subsequent violations on your part can only result in further discipline and more severe sanctions. We sincerely hope that you will conduct yourself in such a manner that future disciplinary action will be unnecessary.

S/David Senoff

Designated Member
The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on May 10, 2024.