# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of:

Justin R. Wall,

Respondent.

Proceeding No. D2017-29

# FINAL ORDER UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 11.24

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO" or "Office") hereby suspends Justin R. Wall ("Respondent") from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent matters before the Office for violation of 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h). The suspension is reciprocal discipline for his suspension in the State of Indiana, as discussed below. Because Respondent has complied with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(f), the suspension is served *nunc pro tunc* from June 14, 2017 through July 13, 2017.

# I. BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent of Huntington, Indiana, has been registered to practice in patent matters before the USPTO as an attorney, subject to the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct. Respondent's USPTO registration number is 61,952.

By Order dated May 3, 2017, in *In the Matter of Justin R. Wall*, Case No.
35S00-1509-DI-577, the Indiana Supreme Court suspended Respondent from the practice of law in that jurisdiction. The period of the suspension was "for a period of 30 days, beginning June 14, 2017."<sup>1</sup> The attached Exhibit A is a true and accurate certified copy of the Order.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By the terms of the Indiana Supreme Court Order, Respondent's 30-day suspension was effective "beginning June 14, 2017." (Exhibit A). The thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day of Respondent's suspension, which is the last day of Respondent's state suspension, was July 13, 2017. Respondent was automatically reinstated after the 30-day suspension, which would be July 14, 2017. This is consistent with information publicly available at the Indiana Supreme Court's

3. On November 15, 2017, the Director of the USPTO's Office of Enrollment and Discipline ("OED Director") filed a "Complaint for Reciprocal Discipline Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24", requesting that the USPTO Director impose reciprocal discipline on Respondent for violating 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), by being suspended on ethical grounds by a duly constituted authority of a State.

4. On November 15, 2017, the Deputy General Counsel for General Law, on behalf of the USPTO Director, issued a Notice and Order giving Respondent 40 days to file a response "containing all information that Respondent believes is sufficient to establish, by clear and convincing evidence, a genuine issue of material fact that the imposition of discipline identical to that imposed by the Indiana Supreme Court in *In the Matter of Justin R. Wall*, Case No. 35S00-1509-DI-577 would be unwarranted, and the reasons for such claim."

5. On November 29, 2017, Respondent submitted "Respondent's Answer to Complaint", requesting that a Final Order be issued that suspends Respondent *nunc pro tunc* from June 14, 2017 through July 13, 2017 from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the USPTO.

6. The OED Director responded on December 12, 2017 stating that the OED Director "does not object to the application of the Indiana discipline *nunc pro tunc.*" The OED Director agreed that Respondent satisfied the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(f) including:

- a. Respondent promptly notified the OED Director of his suspension in another jurisdiction;
- Respondent established by clear and convincing evidence that he voluntarily ceased all activities related to practice before the Office; and

2

Disciplinary Commission website, which shows a change in Respondent's status in that jurisdiction on July 14, 2017. (Exhibit B).

c. Respondent complied with all provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 11.58.

#### ORDER

# ACCORDINGLY, it is:

1. ORDERED that Respondent is suspended *nunc pro tunc* from June 14, 2017 through July 13, 2017, from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the USPTO;

2. ORDERED that the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 11.58 are waived;

3. ORDERED that the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 11.60 are waived;

4. ORDERED that this final order reinstates Respondent to the practice of patent,

trademark, and other non-patent law before the USPTO effective, *nunc pro tunc*, July 14, 2017; and;

5. ORDERED that the OED Director publish a notice in the Official Gazette

materially consistent with the following:

### Notice of Suspension

This notice concerns Justin R. Wall of Huntington, Indiana, who is a registered patent attorney (Registration Number 61,952). In a reciprocal disciplinary proceeding, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") has ordered that Mr. Wall be suspended for thirty days from practice before the USPTO in patent, trademark, and other non-patent matters for violating 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), predicated upon being suspended from the practice of law by a duly constituted authority of a State. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(f), the suspension is imposed *nunc pro tunc* from June 14, 2017 to July 13, 2017, the period of the suspension in Indiana.

The Indiana Supreme Court suspended Mr. Wall after finding that he engaged in attorney misconduct arising from his connection with a Florida corporation, Consumer Attorney Services ("CAS"). The court

found that Mr. Wall violated the following Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct during his association with CAS: 1.5(a) (charging an unreasonable fee); 1.5(e) (improperly dividing fees); 5.5(a) (assisting in the unauthorized practice of law); and 8.4(a) (violating the Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct or assisting another to do so). The court noted that Mr. Wall's association with CAS did not appear to be based on a selfish motive and that referrals from the corporation made up a small portion of Mr. Wall's practice.

This action is taken pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 32 and 37 C.F.R. § 11.24. Disciplinary decisions are available for public review at the Office of Enrollment and Discipline's FOIA Reading Room, located at: http://e-foia.uspto.gov/Foia/OEDReadingRoom.jsp.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date

Aust Aluris

Sarah T. Harris General Counsel United States Patent and Trademark Office

on delegated authority by

Andrei Iancu

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

# Exhibit A

(

1

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT Donald R. Lundberg Indianapolis, Indiana ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDIANA SUPREME COURT DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION G. Michael Witte, Executive Director Angie Ordway, Staff Attorney Indianapolis, Indiana

# In the Indíana Supreme Court

#### No. 35S00-1509-DI-577



IN THE MATTER OF:

JUSTIN R. WALL,

Respondent.

Attorney Discipline Action Hearing Officer Robert C. Reiling, Jr.

May 3, 2017

Per Curiam.

We find that Respondent, Justin Wall, engaged in attorney misconduct arising from his relationship with a Florida corporation. For this misconduct, we conclude that Respondent should be suspended for 30 days with automatic reinstatement.

This matter is before the Court on the report of the hearing officer appointed by this Court to hear evidence on the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission's "Verified Complaint for Disciplinary Action," and on the post-hearing briefing by the parties. Respondent's 2008 admission to this state's bar subjects him to this Court's disciplinary jurisdiction. See IND. CONST. art. 7, § 4.

#### Procedural Background and Facts

A CONTRACT AND WAS

The Commission filed a "Verified Complaint for Disciplinary Action" against Respondent on September 28, 2015, alleging numerous rule violations arising out of Respondent's relationship with McCann Law Group, d/b/a Consumer Attorney Services, P.A. ("CAS"), a Florida corporation that purported to offer clients services relating to bankruptcy, mortgage modification, and foreclosure defense.

CAS advertised its services to consumers in Florida and elsewhere, including Indiana, and solicited local counsel in states other than Florida. Under the terms of CAS's contractual arrangements with clients and local counsel, most client work was handled by central staff (including lawyers and nonlawyer assistants) in Florida, with local counsel's involvement generally limited to aspects of the case requiring a local attorney's services. In a typical case, prospective clients would discuss their options with a CAS intake paralegal and then enter into a representation agreement with CAS. CAS typically charged clients an upfront "nonrefundable" fee and, in many instances, ongoing monthly fees.

In 2012 Respondent signed agreements with CAS, first as an "associate" and later as a "partner," under which Respondent would provide discrete services to CAS's Indiana bankruptcy and foreclosure defense clients. CAS entered into similar agreements with other Indiana attorneys as well. Respondent received fixed sums for select services, sums that represented only a small fraction of the total fee charged to clients by CAS. As a "partner," Respondent also received \$25 for every case assigned to other CAS-associated attorneys in Indiana as well as minimum wage for 10-20 hours per week as "partner pay."

Respondent's role in these cases generally was as follows. A CAS paralegal would assign a case to Respondent after the client had signed a representation agreement with CAS. Respondent then would perform a "welcome call" to the client and explain that he would be the "boots in the trenches" for CAS, assisting the client either through mortgage modification services or foreclosure defense. In most instances though, Respondent's sole objective was to get the mortgagee to agree to a modification. CAS's business model contemplated that most document preparation and client communication would be performed by CAS staff in Florida. However, Respondent testified he reviewed all pleadings and made changes where warranted before signing and filing them, and he testified he made himself available to clients above and beyond the "welcome call" CAS paid him to make.

Following a hearing, the hearing officer issued a report finding against Respondent on some charges, against the Commission on other charges, and leaving still other charges unaddressed. Both Respondent and the Commission have petitioned for review.

#### Discussion

We have examined CAS's business model and arrangements with Indiana attorneys twice before. In <u>Consumer Attorney Services, P.A. v. State</u>, 71 N.E.3d 362 (Ind. 2017), we affirmed the denial of summary judgment for CAS and its principal member in a suit brought by our Attorney General, holding neither defendant was exempt from civil liability under various consumer protection statutes. In <u>Matter of Jackson</u>, 24 N.E.3d 419 (Ind. 2015), we approved agreed discipline for another CAS-associated Indiana attorney. The present case comes to us in a different posture than either of those cases though, and we confine our analysis today to the specific issues, evidence, and arguments now before us.

The Commission carries the burden of proof to demonstrate attorney misconduct by clear and convincing evidence. See Ind. Admission and Discipline Rule 23(14)(i) (2016). We review *de novo* all matters presented to the Court, including review not only of the hearing officer's report but also of the entire record. See <u>Matter of Thomas</u>, 30 N.E.3d 704, 708 (Ind. 2015). The hearing officer's findings receive emphasis due to the unique opportunity for direct observation of witnesses, but this Court reserves the right to make the ultimate determination. <u>Id.</u>

With these considerations in mind, we explore the various Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct alleged to have been violated by Respondent as well as the appropriate sanction for Respondent's misconduct. Consultation with clients regarding limited scope of representation (Rules 1.4(a)(1) and 1.4(a)(5)). The hearing officer found no violation of these rules, and the Commission has petitioned for review of those findings. While the written representation agreements executed by CAS clients did not completely and accurately spell out for clients the division of labor and responsibility between CAS and local counsel, Rules 1.4(a)(1) and 1.4(a)(5) do not require this to be in writing. Respondent testified he discussed these matters with clients during his initial phone call to them, and the hearing officer appears to have credited that testimony. Respondent also testified he made himself available and performed case services above and beyond what was minimally required of him under his arrangement with CAS, often without additional compensation. The Commission did not call any of Respondent's clients to testify. The Commission urges us to draw an inference contrary to Respondent's testimony from phone logs tending to show a comparatively low number and duration of calls between Respondent and his clients, but we see no reason to reweigh the conflicting evidence. Accordingly, we concur with the hearing officer's conclusion that the Commission failed to carry its burden of proving a violation of Rules 1.4(a)(1) or 1.4(a)(5), and we find in Respondent's favor on these charges.

المراجعة والمتعادين

Improper fee splitting (Rule 1.5(e)). Rule 1.5(e) sets forth three requirements that must be met for a division of a fee between lawyers who are "not in the same firm." No argument is advanced that these requirements were met; and indeed, at least one (that the client agree in writing to the share each lawyer will receive) indisputably was not met. Rather, Respondent contends, and the hearing officer agreed, that the rule is inapplicable here because Respondent was a member of CAS.

The hearing officer viewed the Court of Appeals' decision in the <u>Consumer Attorney</u> <u>Services</u> appeal as dispositive of this issue, but we find fault with this approach for many of the same reasons we recently addressed in <u>Matter of Smith</u>, 60 N.E.3d 1034 (Ind. 2016).<sup>1</sup> Moreover, the Court of Appeals' decision was not yet final, and eventually was vacated upon our grant of transfer in that appeal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We note the hearing officer in this case, who also happens to be the same hearing officer we appointed in <u>Smith</u>, did not have the benefit of our decision in <u>Smith</u> at the time he issued his report in this case.

Reviewing *de novo* the record before us, we conclude that the evidence shows Respondent was not "in the same firm" as CAS for purposes of Rule 1.5(e). CAS's agreements with clients and with local counsel assigned responsibility for most tasks to CAS central staff in Florida and generally limited local counsel's responsibilities to only those tasks requiring a local counsel, provisions that seemingly would be unnecessary if CAS and its contracted local counsel were truly "in the same firm." Further, Respondent's "associate" agreement expressly identified and treated Respondent as an independent contractor. Under both that agreement and his subsequent "partner" agreement, he was paid small sums for discrete services, sums that amounted to a very small fraction of the amounts charged to the clients by CAS. Respondent maintained his own law firm (Wall Legal Services) throughout his relationship with CAS, and he used his own firm name and letterhead in legal pleadings and letters sent to clients and others in connection with CAS cases. While no one factor necessarily is dispositive, the evidence in its totality leads us to conclude Respondent and CAS were not "in the same firm." Accordingly, we find that Respondent violated Rule 1.5(e).<sup>2</sup>

Assisting CAS with charging and collecting an unreasonable fee (Rules 8.4(a) and 1.5(a)). The hearing officer found a direct violation of Rule 1.5(a), based on the \$25 "partner pay" Respondent received for every case assigned to other CAS-associated attorneys in Indiana. However, the hearing officer concluded Respondent did not assist CAS in charging or collecting an unreasonable fee from clients because Respondent was not aware of each client's final bill. Both parties have petitioned for review.

The \$25 "partner pay" was not a theory advanced by the Commission as grounds for a Rule 1.5(a) violation. Nor was this a fee charged to or collected from a client; rather, it was a compensation matter between Respondent and CAS. Thus, the hearing officer's finding of a direct violation on these grounds cannot stand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> We acknowledge that Respondent's "partner" agreement purported to make Respondent an employee of CAS, at least nominally. Having determined Respondent's conduct under his "associate" agreement violated Rule 1.5(e), we need not address the impact, if any, that Respondent's "partner" agreement might have on this analysis.

However, we readily conclude from the evidence that Respondent did assist CAS in charging an unreasonable fee. That Respondent was not aware of the precise amount billed to any client is immaterial in these circumstances. As Respondent acknowledged in his testimony, "nonrefundable" retainers generally are permissible in Indiana only to the extent they pay to reserve the attorney's time and availability. *See Matter of O'Farrell*, 942 N.E.2d 799 (Ind. 2011). Respondent knew that CAS's representation agreements called for clients to be charged about \$1,200 as a nonrefundable retainer, which according to the agreements was to reserve local counsel's time to review the file, and yet CAS paid Respondent only \$75 to review the file and perform a "welcome call" for the client. Further, Respondent knew that CAS charged clients recurring monthly fees (usually between \$400 to \$1,300) that were not tied to the work being done on the client's case. (Tr. at 90-96). Accordingly, we find Respondent assisted CAS in charging clients an unreasonable fee, in violation of Rules 8.4(a) and 1.5(a).

Supervision of nonlawyers (Rule 5.3(b)). This rule requires a lawyer with "direct supervisory authority" over a nonlawyer to make reasonable efforts to ensure the nonlawyer's conduct is compatible with the lawyer's professional responsibilities. Based on Respondent's testimony, the hearing officer concluded Respondent did not violate this rule because CAS's paralegals were supervised by an Indiana-licensed attorney on CAS's central staff. The Commission labels Respondent's testimony as "self-serving" and urges us to draw a contrary inference from other evidence, but we again see no reason to reweigh conflicting evidence. Accordingly, we concur with the hearing officer's conclusion that the Commission failed to carry its burden of proof, and we find in Respondent's favor with respect to the Rule 5.3(b) charge.

Assisting CAS with using an improper trade name (Rules 8.4(a) and 7.5(a)(4)). Rule 7.5(a)(4) imposes certain requirements upon the use of a trade name by an attorney in private practice, including among other things that "the name shall include the name of a lawyer." The hearing officer found no violation, and we agree. CAS's website and representation agreements both listed "McCann Law Group" in connection with the CAS trade name. Moreover, Respondent generally utilized his own firm name in legal pleadings and case-related correspondence. The Commission has failed to sustain its burden of proving Respondent

assisted CAS with using an improper trade name, and accordingly we find in Respondent's favor on this charge.

Assisting CAS in the unauthorized practice of law (Rule 5.5(a)). The findings of the hearing officer on this charge were equivocal, and both parties have sought review.

We have confronted similar business models in disciplinary cases before. See <u>Matter of</u> <u>Fratini</u>, <u>N.E.3d</u> (Ind. Feb. 10, 2017); <u>Matter of Joyce</u>, 9 N.E.3d 142 (Ind. 2014); <u>Matter</u> <u>of Dilk</u>, 2 N.E.3d 1263 (Ind. 2014). And in <u>Jackson</u>, we found the conduct of another CASassociated attorney violated Rule 5.5(a), although that was an agreed disposition on stipulated facts.

We also have confronted this issue in proceedings brought under Admission and Discipline Rule 24 to enjoin the unauthorized practice of law, and we find one of those cases particularly instructive here. In <u>State ex rel.</u> Indiana State Bar Association v. United Financial <u>Systems Corp.</u>, 926 N.E.2d 8 (Ind. 2010), a company's nonlawyer salespeople marketed estate planning services to customers, using those services as a loss leader to generate more lucrative sales of annuities and other insurance products. The vast majority of customer interaction was performed by nonlawyers. The company utilized independent contractor "panel attorneys" to provide nominal document review and client consultation. The customers paid the company about \$2,700 for the estate plan most commonly pushed by sales associates. From those funds, the salesperson received a commission ranging from \$750 to \$900, and the panel attorney was paid a flat fee of \$225 to make an initial phone call and draft the estate planning documents.

The company in <u>United Financial</u> cited the involvement of its panel attorneys in arguing its practices were lawful. In particular, the company argued that its panel attorneys exercised independent judgment and played a greater role than merely drafting testamentary documents. We held otherwise though, explaining that the company's "business model has marginalized the attorney's role to such a degree as to cross the line of permissible practices." <u>Id.</u> at 15. We find more similarities than differences between CAS's business model and the practices at issue in <u>United Financial</u>. Only a small fraction of the fees CAS charged to clients was channeled to local counsel. The fixed low sums allocated to local counsel for discrete and largely perfunctory legal tasks served to marginalize attorney involvement, a point reinforced by the provisions in CAS's agreements with clients and local counsel steering responsibility for most tasks toward CAS central staff and away from local counsel. Additionally, neither the initial retainer nor recurring monthly fees CAS charged its customers were tethered to the amount of services rendered. Customers were not told of the fee allocation between CAS and local counsel, and thus were left unaware that, in most instances, greater attorney involvement likely could be had in their cases for far less cost. We acknowledge that Respondent's testimony (apparently credited by the hearing officer) that CAS's paralegals were supervised by an Indiana-licensed attorney on CAS's central staff lends itself to an inference of slightly greater attorney involvement in the client intake process than existed in the <u>United Financial</u> case. Nonetheless, we are persuaded by the balance of factors in this case that CAS's business practices *in toto* amount to the unauthorized practice of law.

Having reached this conclusion, it follows that Respondent assisted in the unauthorized practice of law. The observation we made with respect to a similar arrangement in <u>Dilk</u> holds equally true here: "Without the involvement of Respondent, the [company] could not have provided the services they offered to homeowners. Selling the assistance of an attorney to defend a foreclosure action was a necessary part of their business model." <u>Id.</u> at 1265. We acknowledge Respondent's testimony that he sometimes provided services for his CAS clients above and beyond what was minimally required of him under his agreements with CAS, and that he subjectively believed he was treating his CAS clients on a similar footing with his other clients. These factors mitigate, but do not excuse, Respondent's misconduct. CAS was engaged in the unauthorized practice of law, and Respondent assisted in that endeavor. Accordingly, we find Respondent violated Rule 5.5(a).

Engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation (Rule 8.4(c)). The hearing officer did not explicitly address this charge. The Commission urges us to find a violation, arguing in its petition for review that Respondent's relationship with CAS was

dishonest and fraudulent because he was a "partner" in name only and Respondent's role in the representations and share of the fees were not adequately conveyed to clients, all of which lent undeserved credence to the legitimacy of CAS's Indiana operations.

15-4-0-

Western Street and the

· . . . . .

We have explored elsewhere in this opinion, and indeed on several other occasions, the perils of this type of business model. Reviewing this record *de novo*, however, we simply cannot conclude that Respondent's conduct was dishonest or deceitful in the manner contemplated by Rule 8.4(c). Respondent's involvement with CAS unquestionably was ill-advised in many respects, but the evidence shows Respondent's actions were not done with the intent to deceive anyone or to generate quick fees with little work at the expense of his clients. Nor is there any evidence of persons being misled by Respondent's identification as a "partner" on CAS's website. Thus, we find no violation of Rule 8.4(c).

Engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice (Rule 8.4(d)). The hearing officer did not explicitly address this charge. The Commission urges us to find a violation, faulting Respondent for communicating with trial courts by using his own letterhead and identifying himself as either a solo practitioner or by reference to his own firm name "Wall Legal Services." The Commission argues that by doing so, trial courts in cases involving CAS were left unaware that the client was represented by a Florida firm, that Respondent arguably had minimal involvement with his client, and that Respondent was filing documents initially drafted by CAS. However, nowhere in the Commission's petition for review or its reply brief does it explain how Respondent's manner of identifying himself was prejudicial to anyone or anything; and reviewing the record *de novo*, we find no evidence that would support a finding of a Rule 8.4(d) violation. Accordingly, we find in Respondent's favor on this charge.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> By way of contrast, we found a violation of Rule 8.4(d) in <u>Dilk</u>, a case involving a similar business arrangement between an Indiana attorney and out-of-state entities purporting to offer foreclosure defense assistance, but that case included evidence of specific harm caused to clients and the attorney's continued acceptance of referrals even after the companies were enjoined from further acts constituting the unauthorized practice of law. And while the conditional agreement we approved in <u>Jackson</u> included a finding of a Rule 8.4(d) violation, the stipulated facts in that case reflected particular shortcomings by the CAS-associated attorney that caused specific harm in at least one client representation. There is simply no evidence of a similar nature before us today that would support a finding of a Rule 8.4(d) violation.

Sanction. Having found that Respondent assisted CAS in the unauthorized practice of law, assisted CAS in charging an unreasonable fee, and failed to comply with the requirements for splitting a legal fee between two or more attorneys not in the same firm, we consider an appropriate sanction for Respondent's misconduct. The hearing officer recommended that Respondent be suspended for 30 days with automatic reinstatement. The Commission urges us to impose a six-month suspension without automatic reinstatement, while Respondent argues a public reprimand would be sufficient discipline.

We do not take schemes involving the unauthorized practice of law lightly. In <u>Dilk</u>, <u>Joyce</u>, and <u>Fratini</u>, we suspended the respondent attorneys for six months without automatic reinstatement for their roles in similar business practices, and in <u>Jackson</u> we suspended another CAS-associated attorney for 120 days with automatic reinstatement. But the attorney misconduct stipulated or found in those cases was more extensive than the misconduct we have found on the record before us today. Likewise, the facts and circumstances of this case generally are less aggravating, and more mitigating, than those before us in the above-referenced cases. Respondent has no prior discipline, and there is no evidence of particularized harm to any client or judicial proceeding resulting from Respondent's misconduct. CAS referrals were a relatively small part of Respondent's practice, and Respondent's involvement with CAS – while quite ill-advised – nonetheless appears to have been well-intentioned and done without selfish motive. For these reasons, we concur with the hearing officer's recommendation for a 30-day suspension.

#### Conclusion

The Court concludes that Respondent violated Professional Conduct Rules 1.5(e), 5.5(a), 8.4(a) and 1.5(a). The Court finds in favor of Respondent on the remaining charges.

For Respondent's professional misconduct, the Court suspends Respondent from the practice of law in this state for a period of 30 days, beginning June 14, 2017. Respondent shall not undertake any new legal matters between service of this opinion and the effective date of the suspension, and Respondent shall fulfill all the duties of a suspended attorney under Admission and Discipline Rule 23(26). At the conclusion of the period of suspension, provided there are no

other suspensions then in effect, Respondent shall be automatically reinstated to the practice of law, subject to the conditions of Admission and Discipline Rule 23(18)(a). The costs of this proceeding are assessed against Respondent, and the hearing officer appointed in this case is discharged.

Rush, C.J., and Rucker, David, and Massa, JJ., concur.

seen.

Slaughter, J., dissents from the finding that Respondent violated Rule 5.5(a), but concurs with the remaining findings and with the sanction imposed.

# Exhibit B

# courts.IN.gov

# Indiana Roll of Attorneys Attorney Record

Chatra Information

Search Results

New Search

# Mr. Justin R. Wall

| Contact Information                  |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Conact mornagon                      |   |
| Firm Name: Wall Legal Services       |   |
| Address 1: 309 North Jefferson St.   | 1 |
| Address 2:                           |   |
| Address 3:                           |   |
| City: Huntington                     |   |
| State: IN                            |   |
| Zip: 46750                           |   |
| Phone: 260-504-2714                  |   |
| E-mail: justin@walllegalservices.com |   |

|                |                       | <br> | Active in Coad Providing |
|----------------|-----------------------|------|--------------------------|
| License Status |                       | <br> | Active In Good Standing  |
| Status Date    |                       | <br> | 07-14-2017               |
| Admit Date 👔   | · · · · · · · · · · · | <br> | 10-17-2008               |

| Disciplinary Information |  |   |       |                   |
|--------------------------|--|---|-------|-------------------|
| a garana a               |  |   |       |                   |
| Concluded                |  |   |       | 35S00-1509-DI-577 |
| · • • •                  |  | , | · · · | · .               |

Disciplinary information listed here includes the most recent pending case and/or the most recent concluded case as of July 1, 2011 as well as any subsequent cases filed since that date. If an attorney has any disciplinary history, at least one case will be listed above, but this list does not necessarily represent a complete disciplinary history.

### About Disciplinary Information

#### **Concluded Discipline**

Without further information, you should not draw any conclusions about past discipline. Some cases end with minor discipline or are dismissed with no discipline.

#### Pending Discipline

The fact that there is an ongoing case means that it is alleged that the lawyer committed misconduct, but there has been no decision finding those allegations to be true.

## More Information

To get more information about a lawyer's pending disciplinary cases, contact:

#### Roll of Attorneys Administrator

(317) 232-5861 rollatty@courts.IN.gov

To get more information about a lawyer's concluded disciplinary cases, contact:

**Records Administrator** 

(317) 232-7225 recordsadmin@courts.IN.gov

Copies of filings are \$1,00/page