

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

In the Matter of:)	
)	
Lenise R. Williams,)	Proceeding No. D2018-42
)	
Respondent)	
<hr/>		

FINAL ORDER PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 11.24

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24, Lenise R. Williams (“Respondent”) is hereby suspended for one (1) year and one (1) day, with all but sixty (60) days deferred, from the practice of trademark and other non-patent law before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO” or “Office”) for violation of 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h). Following the active portion of the suspension, Respondent shall successfully complete a two-year period of unsupervised probation.

Background

By Order dated June 29, 2017, the Supreme Court of Louisiana in *In re Lenise R. Williams*, No. 2017-B-0906, suspended Respondent from the practice of law in that jurisdiction for one (1) year and one (1) day, with all but sixty (60) days deferred, based on ethical grounds. Following the active portion of the suspension, Respondent was ordered to successfully complete a two-year period of unsupervised probation.

On September 5, 2018, a “Notice and Order Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Notice and Order”), was sent by certified mail (receipt no.70180680000076616110) notifying Respondent that the Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline (“OED Director”) had filed a “Complaint for Reciprocal Discipline Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Complaint”) requesting that the Director of the USPTO impose reciprocal discipline upon Respondent identical to the discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of Louisiana in *In re Lenise R. Williams*, No. 2017-B-

0906. The Notice and Order was delivered to Respondent on September 10, 2018. Respondent has not filed a response to the Notice and Order.

Analysis

In light of Respondent's failure to file a response, it is hereby determined that there is no genuine issue of material fact under 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(d) and Respondent's suspension, followed by probation, is the appropriate discipline.

ACCORDINGLY, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of trademark and other non-patent law before the USPTO for one (1) year and one (1) day, with all but sixty (60) days deferred, effective the date of this Final Order;
2. Respondent may file a petition for reinstatement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.60 after the sixty-day suspension period;
3. Respondent shall remain suspended from the practice of trademark and other non-patent law before the USPTO until the OED Director grants a petition requesting Respondent's reinstatement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.60;
4. Respondent shall be granted limited recognition to practice before the Office beginning on the date the Final Order is signed, and expiring thirty (30) days after the date the Final Order is signed, with such limited recognition being granted for the sole purpose of facilitating Respondent's compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 11.58(b);
5. Respondent shall comply with 37 C.F.R. § 11.58;
6. Respondent shall serve a 2-year unsupervised probationary period commencing on the date of reinstatement;
7. Respondent shall be permitted to practice before the USPTO in practice of trademark and other non-patent law before the USPTO during her probationary period, unless her probation

is revoked and she is suspended by order of the USPTO Director or otherwise no longer has the authority to practice;

8. (1) If the OED Director is of the opinion that Respondent, during the probationary period, failed to comply with any provision of this Final Order or any provision of the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct, the OED Director shall:

- (A) issue to Respondent an Order to Show Cause why the USPTO Director should not enter an order immediately suspending the Respondent for up to one additional year for the violations set forth in the Final Order;
- (B) send the Order to Show Cause to Respondent at the last address of record Respondent furnished to the OED Director pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.11(a); and
- (C) grant Respondent fifteen (15) days to respond to the Order to Show Cause; and

(2) In the event that after the 15-day period for response and consideration of the response, if any, received from Respondent, the OED Director continues to be of the opinion that Respondent, during the probationary period, failed to comply with any provision of the Final Order, or any provision of the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct, the OED Director shall:

- (A) deliver to the USPTO Director or his designee: (i) the Order to Show Cause, (ii) Respondent's response to the Order to Show Cause, if any, and (iii) argument and evidence supporting the OED Director's position; and
- (B) request that the USPTO Director enter an order suspending Respondent from practice before the USPTO for up to one additional year for the violations set forth in the Final Order;

9. Nothing therein shall prevent the OED Director from seeking discrete discipline for any misconduct that formed the basis for an Order to Show Cause issued pursuant to the preceding paragraph “8” above;

10. In the event the Respondent seeks a review of any action taken pursuant to paragraph “8” above, such review shall not operate to postpone or other hold in abeyance such action;

11. The OED Director shall publish a notice in the *Official Gazette* that is materially consistent with the following:

Notice of Suspension

This notice concerns Lenise R. Williams of Atlanta, Georgia, who is authorized to practice before the Office in trademark and non-patent matters. In a reciprocal disciplinary proceeding, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) has ordered that Ms. Lenise R. Williams be suspended for one year and one day with all but sixty days deferred from practice before the USPTO in trademark and other non-patent matters for violating 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), predicated upon being suspended for one year and one day with all but sixty days deferred from the practice of law by a duly constituted authority of a State. Following the active portion of the suspension and consistent with the discipline ordered by the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana, Ms. Williams shall successfully complete a two-year period of unsupervised probation. Ms. Lenise R. Williams is not authorized to practice before the Office in patent matters.

The Office of Disciplinary Counsel of Louisiana commenced an investigation into allegations that Ms. Williams neglected a legal matter, failed to communicate with a client, and failed to properly withdraw from a representation. Respondent failed to cooperate with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel in its investigation. Following the institution of formal charges, respondent and the Office of Disciplinary Counsel submitted a joint petition for consent discipline.

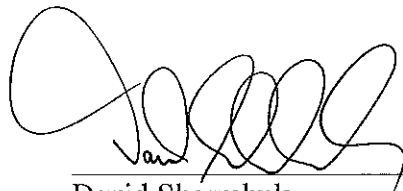
By Order dated June 29, 2017, in case No. 2017-B-0906, the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana accepted the Petition for Consent Discipline and ordered the suspension from the practice of law for a period of one year and one day. It is further ordered that all but sixty days of this suspension shall be deferred. Following the active portion of the suspension, respondent shall successfully complete a two-year period of unsupervised probation.

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>;

and

12. The OED Director shall give notice pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.59 of the public discipline and the reasons for the discipline to disciplinary enforcement agencies in the state(s) where Respondent is admitted to practice, to courts where Respondent is known to be admitted, and to the public.

11/7/18
Date



David Shewchuk
Deputy General Counsel for General Law
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

cc:

OED Director

Ms. Lenise R. Williams
2451 Cumberland Blvd Ste. 3308
Atlanta GA, 30339