

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of:)
)
Nancy T. Lord,) Proceeding No. D2019-20
)
Respondent)
_____)

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

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24, Nancy T. Lord (“Respondent”) is hereby suspended for six (6) months and one (1) day from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO” or “Office”). Respondent’s reciprocal discipline is predicated on her violation of 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), having been disciplined by a duly constituted authority of a state.

Background

On June 11 2019, a “Notice and Order Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Notice and Order”) was sent by certified mail (receipt nos. 70172620000001057950 and 70172620000001058247) 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 United States Patent and Trademark Office impose reciprocal discipline upon Respondent identical to the discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada in *In re Discipline of Nancy T. Lord*, Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 73447. The Notice and Order provided Respondent an opportunity to file, within forty (40) days, a response opposing the imposition of reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada in *In re Discipline of Nancy T. Lord*, Nevada Supreme Court

Case No. 73447, based on one or more of the reasons provided in 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(d)(1).

The Notice and Order was also published in the Official Gazette on September 3, 2019 and September 10, 2019. 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 from the practice of patent, trademark and other non-patent law before the USPTO is the appropriate discipline.

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

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the USPTO for six (6) months and one (1) day, commencing on the date of this Final Order;
2. Respondent shall remain suspended from the practice of patent, 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;
3. The OED Director publish the following Notice in the *Official Gazette*:

Notice of Suspension

This notice concerns Nancy T. Lord of Oakland Park, Florida, who is a registered patent attorney (Registration Number 45,462). In a reciprocal disciplinary proceeding, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") has ordered that Ms. Lord be suspended 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 for six months and one day from the practice of law by a duly constituted authority of a State.

By order dated December 20, 2017, the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada, No. 73447, ordered the suspension of Ms. Lord from the practice of law in Nevada for a period of six months and one day commencing

from the date of the order. The order was predicated on Ms. Lord failing to file an opening brief and appendix despite being ordered to do so, which resulted in the dismissal of her client's appeal; interrupting a criminal proceeding wherein Ms. Lord was the defendant, making false accusations about the judge, and causing the judge to recuse himself and continue the trial; overdrawing her trust account on five occasions, at least four of which appear to be the result of Ms. Lord utilizing her trust account to pay personal expenses; and failing to respond to the Nevada State Bar's letters of investigation. The Nevada Supreme Court found that Ms. Lord violated Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct §§ 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.15 (safekeeping property), 3.4(c) (fairness to opposing party and counsel), 3.5 (impartiality and decorum of the tribunal), 8.1(b) (bar admission and disciplinary matters: failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a disciplinary authority), 8.2 (judicial and legal officials), 8.4(c) (misconduct: engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation), and 8.4(d) (misconduct: engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). The panel found three aggravating circumstances (pattern of misconduct, multiple offenses, and substantial experience in the practice of law) and one mitigating circumstance (personal or emotional problems).

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>;

4. The OED Director 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.

5. Respondent shall comply with the duties enumerated in 37 C.F.R. § 11.58;

6. The USPTO dissociate Respondent's name from any Customer Numbers and the public key infrastructure ("PKI") certificate associated with those Customer Numbers; and

7. Respondent shall not apply for a USPTO Customer Number, shall not

obtain a USPTO Customer Number, nor shall she have her name added to a USPTO Customer Number, unless and until she is reinstated to practice before the USPTO.

23 Oct 2019

Date



David M. 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