

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of:)
)
Leslie A. Thompson,)
)
Respondent)
_____)

Proceeding No. D2019-35

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

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24, Leslie A. Thompson (“Respondent”) is hereby suspended for thirty (30) days 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 his violation of 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), having been disciplined by a duly constituted authority of a state.

Background

On June 20, 2019, a “Notice and Order Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Notice and Order”) was sent by certified mail (receipt no. 70172620000001057523) 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 District of Columbia Court of Appeals in *In re Leslie Arnold Thompson*, No. 18-BG-508. 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 District of Columbia Court of Appeals in *In re Leslie Arnold Thompson*, No. 18-BG-

508, based on one or more of the reasons provided in 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(d)(1). Respondent received the Notice and Order on June 24, 2019 but did not file a response.

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 thirty (30) days, commencing on the date of this Final Order;
2. The OED Director publish the following Notice in the *Official Gazette*:

Notice of Suspension

This notice concerns Leslie A. Thompson of the District of Columbia, who is a registered patent attorney (Registration Number 54,584). In a reciprocal disciplinary proceeding, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") has ordered that Mr. Thompson 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 for thirty days from the practice of law by a duly constituted authority of a State.

On October 18, 2018, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals ordered that Mr. Thompson be suspended from the practice of law in the District of Columbia for thirty days, and his reinstatement be conditioned on a showing of fitness, based on the Board of Professional Responsibility findings that Mr. Thompson violated Rule 8.4(d) of the District of Columbia Rules of Professional Conduct and D.C. Bar R. XI, § 2(b)(3) because he "delayed in responding to Disciplinary Counsel's inquiry letter regarding a disciplinary complaint, failed to respond to a subpoena *duces tecum* for his client file and his financial records, and failed to comply with a [c]ourt order compelling him to respond to Disciplinary Counsel's subpoena." The underlying disciplinary complaint was based on a

complaint from Mr. Thompson's former client who alleged that after she paid Mr. Thompson his legal fees and filing fees to prepare and file a provisional patent application, Mr. Thompson did not file the application and stopped communicating with her.

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>;

3. 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.

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

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

6. Respondent shall not apply for a USPTO Customer Number, shall not obtain a USPTO Customer Number, nor shall he have his name added to a USPTO Customer Number, unless and until he is reinstated to practice before the USPTO.

(Signature Page Follows- Final Order, Thompson, D2019-35)

(Signature Page for Final Order, Thompson, D2019-35)

8/23/19
Date

Kathryn Stender for
David M. Shewchuk
Deputy General Counsel for General Law
United States Patent and Trademark Office

on delegated authority by

Andrei T. Iancu
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office