

14-17-00521-CV

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE
FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

ROBERT S. BENNETT,
Appellant,
v.
COMMISSION FOR LAWYER DISCIPLINE,
Appellee.

Appellant's Amicus Letter

On Appeal from the 344th District Court, Harris County, Texas

Cause No. 2013-56866
Hon. Craig Smith, presiding

**RACHAELLE REYNOLDS
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED

November 5, 2018

Honorable Christopher A. Pine, Clerk
Fourteenth Court of Appeals
301 Fannin Street, Suite 245
Houston, Texas 77002

RE: Robert S. Bennett, Appellant. V. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, Appellee
On Appeal from the 344th District Court, Harris County, Texas Cause No. 2013-
56866. Appellant Court No. 14-17-00521-CV

Dear Mr. Pine:

The purpose of this transmittal letter is to provide the Court with two Amicus Letters from Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds State Bar of Texas Bar No. 24088294, regarding the case at issue (enclosed herein). Amicus Texas Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds, files this her Amicus Letters pursuant to Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 38.7. The request is hereby made these letters be submitted to the Panel so that the Court may rule on this request that it supplements the briefing with these letters and consider these Attorney Amicus Letters regarding issues raised in the Appeal. Amicus Curiae Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds a Texas attorney interested in the outcome of the case and a member of the State Bar of Texas who is receiving no compensation for serving as an Amicus Curiae. The interest of all attorneys who have filed with the Court is in the proper and equal application of the Disciplinary Rules to all. It is important that this Court's opinion lay down limits on the scope of Rule 3.10, and reestablish that the rule of law must be the guiding principle of our bar.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: /s/ Rachaelle Reynolds
Rachaelle Reynolds

CC: Amicus Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds

CC: Amicus Attorney Robert S. Bennett

CC: Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel

See Attachments:

Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds - CURRENT Letter to Commission

Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds - PAST Letter to Commission

Attorney Rachaelle Reynolds – RESUME

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November 2, 2018

Honorable Christopher A. Pine
Fourteenth Court of Appeals
301 Fannin Street, Suite 245
Houston, Texas 77002

RE: Robert S. Bennett, V. Commission for Lawyer Discipline, Appellee
On appeal from the 344th District Court, Harris County, Texas Cause No 2013-56866,

Dear Mr. Pine,

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Robert S. Bennett, the appellant in the above referenced matter. After reviewing the disciplinary actions taken against Mr. Bennett and the history of this case, I believe that justice was not served properly.

The facts in this matter indicate that the initial disbarment was reversed and the appellant was reinstated. The appellate court found that the appellant did not violate Texas Disciplinary rule 1.15(d) but did find a violation of rule 3.02. However, when the case was remanded to the Civil District Court judge Craig Smith disallowed discovery, held a sanction hearing with no fact nor expert witnesses and imposed a two-year suspension.

Based on the above-stated facts, it is clear that what took place is a miscarriage of justice. The Civil District Court, judge had no interest in hearing the truth leading to an outrageous unrighteousness and unfairness in this matter. Consequently, I join thousands of Texas attorneys who request the appellant be granted an oral argument and that up on the consideration of the facts and applicable law, no sanction should be imposed upon the appellant.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rachaelle Reynolds
Rachaelle Reynolds

Rachaelle Reynolds
5522 Larkin St., Unit A
Houston, TX 77007

April 14, 2014

Linda Acevedo
Chief Disciplinary Counsel
Commission for Lawyer Discipline
PO Box 12487
Austin, TX 78711-2487

RE: Robert S. Bennett

Dear Ms. Acevedo,

I am writing this letter to express my exasperation of Bob Bennett's reinstatement as a member of the Texas Bar. Mr. Bennett was recently disbarred by a Juvenile Judge, Judge Carmen Kelsey in a three-day trial that I personally observed, which by even cautious standards, was not worthy of the name. So palpable was the animus of the Court and the Commission against Mr. Bennett's case, that by the proceeding's conclusion, any sting was nearly absent from what rightly should be regarded as a highly irregular and shocking result. For an attorney with an unblemished record of forty years, and the highest ranking in the state for Professional Licensing and Ethics to suffer disbarment upon the most meager of evidence must move any attorney with conscience to question the grievance process and ask whether justice was done.

Observing Mr. Bennett's trial, I was taken aback immediately by the exceedingly narrow focus of the Commission's investigation. The entire scope of Mr. Bennett's alleged misconduct hinged on a decision in appeal before the Texas Court of Appeals, a District Court's earlier affirmation of an (unfavorable) arbitration decision. I considered that line of inquiry to infringe upon Mr. Bennett's Constitutional Rights, because a lawyer has the right to appeal an arbitration panel's decision when there is a disagreement as to the evidence relied upon by the panel in reaching its decision. As important in my estimation of the OCDC's case, was a critical personal impression that a *fait* calculus of a forty-year career should turn up far richer, more poignant, and repeated examples of misconduct—if indeed professionalism and ethics are so lacking in an individual of Mr. Bennett's stature and record in the Houston community.

ATTORNEY

Bar Admissions: Texas (2013) | U.S Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (2015)

Talented and experienced attorney with a strong regulatory and commercial transactions background. Delivers legal guidance, management best practices, and operating standards related to business, federal and state laws and regulations. Trusted legal counselor with a broad range of knowledge including financial and commercial transactions, licensing, regulatory compliance, employment law, litigation management, and corporate governance. Experienced in evaluating, negotiating and preparing: construction, employment and business agreements; leases; stipulations; administrative appeals; settlement agreements; and other legal documents. Proven ability to logically and effectively analyze statutes, ordinances, case law, and factual data and martial newly acquired knowledge to provide cost-effective solutions to problems. Concise, objective and persuasive in written and oral communications. Resourceful, with an ability to think non-linearly and anticipate potential issues to adequately protect clients. Utilizes communication and leadership skills to drive success across stakeholder groups. Proven record of completing projects producing professional results while adhering to rigid deadlines. Confident that acquired skills will be precisely transferable to a position of In-House Counsel.

CORE SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Fluent in Arabic & French

Regulatory Compliance	Commercial Transactions	Licenses, Petitions and Waivers
Corporate Transactions	Negotiations / Drafting Contracts	Intellectual Property
Mediation / Arbitration	Employment	Insurance

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Acrobat, & Corel Word Perfect

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder/Manager | Rachaelle Reynolds & Associates, PLLC | Houston, TX 2015 - Present

Represents clients in a wide variety of regulatory proceedings, corporate transactions, commercial disputes, and administrative proceedings. Provides legal counsel while ensuring cost effective and business optimizing solutions. Manages complex matters ranging from internal governance and employment disputes, to regulatory audits, and commercial issues involving multimillion-dollar businesses. Represents businesses and individuals involved in both civil and criminal proceedings.

Selected Accomplishments:

Employment / Workplace Litigation

- **Successfully fought a wrongful termination suit brought by disgruntled employee of a major regional hospital represented by a *Fortune 100* law firm. Managed complex case that involved untangling a mixture of incongruent claims, including workplace discrimination, defamation, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.**

Health Care / Organizational Restructuring, Economic Analysis & Optimization

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on November 5, 2018, a copy of this letter was served on the parties listed below by electronic service and that the electronic transmission was reported as complete.

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