

**BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
PANEL B**

IN RE: THOMAS LEWIS TRAVIS, Respondent  
Arkansas Bar ID# 95029  
CPC Docket No. 2011-065

**FILED**  
OCT 21 2011  
LESLIE W. STEEN  
CLERK

**CONSENT FINDINGS AND ORDER**

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Findings and Order is based arose from information provided to the Committee in a self report by Thomas Lewis Travis during June 2011. The information related to the representation of Jose Alvarez-Fierros by Mr. Travis beginning in 2009.

On July 19, 2011, Respondent was served with a formal complaint, supported by the information he previously provided. A response was filed. The Respondent and the Executive Director negotiated a discipline by consent proposal, which was submitted to this Panel.

Beginning in 2009, Thomas Lewis Travis, an attorney practicing in Little Rock, Arkansas, represented Jose Alvarez-Fierros in the removal proceedings filed against Mr. Alvarez-Fierros, in Immigration Court in Memphis, Tennessee. As part of his representation of Mr. Alvarez-Fierros, Mr. Travis prepared a Motion to Suppress in an effort to terminate the proceedings.

Mr. Travis was ordered by the Immigration Court to file the Motion by March 5, 2010. Mr. Travis did file the Motion with the United State Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to March 5, 2010, however, it was not filed with the Immigration Court. The hearing on the Motion was scheduled for June 1, 2010. Mr. Travis was unaware that the Motion had not been filed with the Court until he appeared for the hearing to argue the Motion on June 1, 2010. It was

when Mr. Travis appeared in Court that he was informed that the Court did not have the Motion. At that time, the Department of Homeland Security's counsel moved to pretermite the matter. The Motion was granted.

Mr. Travis appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals on behalf of Mr. Alvarez-Fierros. The appeal was dismissed on June 7, 2011.

Mr. Travis has acknowledged that the failure to properly file the Motion to Suppress with the Immigration Court prejudiced the Respondent. He accepts responsibility for the prejudice to Mr. Alvarez-Fierros.

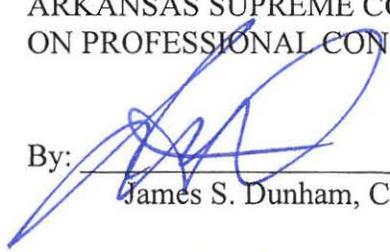
Upon consideration of the formal complaint and attached exhibit materials, the consent proposal, and other matters before it, and the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct, Panel B of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

1. That Mr. Travis' conduct violated Rule 1.3 when he failed to file the Motion To Suppress on Mr. Alvarez-Fierros' behalf with the Immigration Court by the March 5, 2010, deadline to do so. Rule 1.3 requires that a lawyer act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client.

2. That Mr. Travis' conduct violated Rule 8.4(d) because his failure to timely file the Motion to Suppress with the Immigration Court caused prejudice to his client, Mr. Alvarez-Fierros, with no fault by Mr. Alvarez-Fierros, in that the Department of Homeland Security's Motion to Pretermite was granted and the Appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals was dismissed due to the failure to file with the Court by the date directed. Rule 8.4(d) requires that a lawyer not engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

WHEREFORE, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, acting through its authorized Panel B, that THOMAS LEWIS TRAVIS, Arkansas Bar ID# 95029, be, and hereby is, REPRIMANDED for his conduct in this matter. In addition, pursuant to Section 18.A of the Procedures, Mr. Travis is assessed the costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$100. The costs assessed herein shall be payable by cashier's check or money order payable to the "Clerk, Arkansas Supreme Court" delivered to the Office of Professional Conduct within thirty (30) days of the date this Findings and Order is filed of record with the Clerk of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE  
ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT - PANEL B

By: 

James S. Dunham, Chair, Panel B

Date: October 21, 2011

(13.M, Rev.1-1-02)