

BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

PANEL A

IN RE: BARBARA A. KETRING-BEUCH

Arkansas Bar ID # 97074

CPC Docket No. 2005-120

CONSENT FINDINGS & ORDER

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Consent Order is premised, involving respondent attorney Barbara A. Ketring-Beuch of Pulaski County, Arkansas, arose from information brought to the attention of the Committee on Professional Conduct by Luther Nelson of Hillside, IL.

Following Respondent Attorney's receipt of the formal complaint, the attorney entered into discussion with the Executive Director which has resulted in an agreement to discipline by consent pursuant to Section 20.B of the Arkansas Supreme Court Procedures Regulating Professional Conduct of Attorneys at Law (2002).

Ms. Ketring-Beuch was hired and paid \$500 by Luther Nelson of Illinois in January 2003 to transfer title to Arkansas heir property of his late parents into the eighteen (18) heirs in his and later generations. After he was unable to obtain information from her or her office about the status of this matter, in September 2004, he discharged Respondent from further involvement and requested the return by her of documents and a fee refund, neither of which he has received. The family hired another attorney to handle the matter.

Upon consideration of the formal complaint and attached exhibits, admissions made by the respondent attorney, the terms of the written consent, the approval of Panel A of the Committee on Professional Conduct, and the Arkansas Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

A. Ms. Ketring-Beuch's conduct violated Model Rule 1.4(a) in that she failed to respond to inquiries from her client about his legal matter entrusted to her. Model Rule 1.4(a) requires that a lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and promptly comply with reasonable requests for information.

WHEREFORE, in accordance with the consent to discipline presented by Respondent and Executive Director, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct that Respondent Barbara A. Ketring-Beuch, Arkansas Bar No. 97074, be, and hereby is, CAUTIONED for her conduct in this matter, assessed Committee costs of \$50.00, and ordered to pay \$200.00 restitution for the benefit of Luther Nelson. The restitution and 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 with 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 A

By _____
Bart F. Virden, Chairperson, Panel A

Date _____