

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

IN RE: **JIMMIE LEE WILSON**, Respondent
Arkansas Bar ID #73128
CPC Docket No. 2014-027

FINDINGS AND ORDER

The formal charges of misconduct upon which this Findings and Order is based were developed from information provided to the Committee by attorney Chesley “Chet” Dunlap on April 22, 2014. The information related to the representation of Perry Vann in early 2104 by Respondent Wilson, an attorney practicing primarily in Helena-West Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas. On May 5, 2014, Respondent was served with a formal complaint, supported by affidavits from Chet Dunlap and Denise Parks. Respondent failed to file a response to the complaint, which failure to timely respond, pursuant to Section 9.C(4) of the Procedures, constitutes an admission of the factual allegations of the formal complaint and extinguishes Respondent’s right to a public hearing. Respondent filed an untimely Response on June 24, 2014, and the Response was provided to the panel for such use as it desired to make of it.

The evidence establishes the facts as follows:

1. Wilson failed to pay his 2014 Arkansas law license renewal fee when due by March 5, 2014. Pursuant to Arkansas Supreme Court Rule VII.C, Rules Governing Admission to the Bar, his Arkansas law license was thereafter automatically administratively suspended until he pays his required renewal fee. As of April 25, 2014, he has not paid his 2014 fee and had his law license reinstated to good standing from its suspension.

2. The Affidavit of Denise Parks, Deputy Supreme Court Clerk, confirms Wilson has not paid his 2014 license renewal fee as of April 28, 2014, and that he also failed to pay his law license renewal fee on time for the years 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, and 2004.

3. On April 17, 2014, while his Arkansas law license was in suspended status, Mr. Wilson caused to be filed in Poinsett County, Arkansas, Circuit Court Case No. E-92-291 on behalf of his client Perry Vann a Response to Petition to Modify and Objections to Notice of Temporary Hearing. Wilson caused both filings to be served on Chesley “Chet” Dunlap of Trumann, Arkansas, attorney for Pamela Tate.

4. As a grievance, on April 22, 2014, Dunlap referred the matter to the Office of Professional Conduct, alleging Wilson was practicing law at a time when his Arkansas law license was in suspended status.

5. In his untimely filed Affidavit of Response, Wilson claimed that opinions of the Arkansas Supreme Court issued May 14, 2014, in cases related to tardiness in payment of the annual attorney license fee and the application of Supreme Court Rule VII.C, Rules Governing Admission to the Bar, decided the issue presented in this Complaint in his favor.

Upon consideration of the formal Complaint and attached exhibit materials, the untimely-filed Response to it, and other matters before it, and the Arkansas Rules of Professional Conduct, Panel B of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct finds:

A. The conduct of Jimmie Lee Wilson violated Rule 3.4(c) in that Wilson failed to pay his 2014 Arkansas bar license fee by March 5, 2014, as required by Arkansas Supreme

Court Rule VII.C, Rules Governing Admission to the Bar. Arkansas Rule 3.4(c) requires that a lawyer shall not knowingly disobey an obligation under the rules of a tribunal except for an open refusal based on an assertion that no valid obligation exists.

WHEREFORE, it is the decision and order of the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct, acting through its authorized Panel B, that Respondent **JIMMIE LEE WILSON**, Arkansas Bar ID#73128, be, and hereby is, **REPRIMANDED and FINED \$2,500.00** for his conduct in this matter. For his failure to file a timely Response to the Complaint, Mr. Wilson is additionally sanctioned with another **REPRIMAND and \$2,500.00 FINE**. In assessing these sanctions, Respondent's prior disciplinary record was a factor. The \$5,000.00 in fines 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:/s/ Stephen R. Crane, Chair, Panel B

Date: August 18, 2014

Original filed with the Arkansas Supreme Court
Clerk on October 14, 2014.