

IN RE: KEVIN J. McNEELY

NO. BD-2018-001

S.J.C. Order of Term Suspension/Stayed entered by Justice Lowy on February 7, 2018.¹

SUMMARY²

The respondent, Kevin J. McNeely, was admitted to the bar of Massachusetts on June 19, 1992. He was also admitted to practice in the District of Columbia. On December 14, 2017, the D.C. Court of Appeals issued an order in which it approved a Petition for Negotiated Discipline of the respondent. The underlying misconduct concerned two clients who retained the respondent to file utility, international, and design patent applications. The respondent filed the patent applications, but failed to pay the filing fees, although the clients had advanced those fees to the respondent. He deposited the filing fees into his operating account, and for a period of time failed to respond to the clients' attempts to reach him. His conduct violated D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1(a) and (b), 1.3(a), 1.4(a) and 1.15(a).

The negotiated discipline imposed by the D.C. Court of Appeals was a thirty-day suspension stayed, and three years of probation during which the respondent was required to comply with conditions involving, *inter alia*, attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous and psychiatric treatment.

On January 2, 2018, bar counsel filed in the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, a petition for reciprocal discipline based on the order from the District of Columbia. The respondent notified the Court that he did not oppose the imposition of reciprocal discipline in Massachusetts. On February 7, 2018, the Court issued an Order, suspending the respondent for a period of thirty days, stayed for three years, conditioned upon the respondent's compliance with the conditions imposed by the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Notwithstanding the disciplinary suspension, the respondent also remains administratively suspended in Massachusetts for failure to pay annual dues. Pursuant to the S.J.C. Order, he shall remain on administrative suspension, until he complies with S.J.C. Rules 4:02 and 4:03, or until further order of the Court.

¹ The complete order of the Court is available by contacting the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County.

² Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record filed with the Supreme Judicial Court.