

**IN RE: EDWARD G. McCORMICK**

**NO. BD-2018-009**

**S.J.C. Judgment accepting Affidavit of Resignation as a Disciplinary Sanction entered by Justice Kafker on February 5, 2018, with an effective date of March 15, 2018.<sup>1</sup>**

**SUMMARY<sup>2</sup>**

This matter came before the Board of Bar Overseers and the Court on the respondent's affidavit of resignation pursuant to Supreme Judicial Court Rule 4:01, § 15. In the affidavit, the respondent acknowledged that the material facts concerning his failure to diligently administer trusts, conflicts of interest, and charging of clearly excessive fees, as summarized below, could be proved by a preponderance of the evidence.

The respondent was admitted to practice in the Commonwealth on November 18, 1971. Between 2004 and 2017, in his capacity as trustee of two client trusts and certain other trusts for grandchildren and as counsel, the respondent failed to administer certain trusts diligently, to treat all beneficiaries impartially, and to render timely accounts. The respondent also failed to act with reasonable diligence in settling an estate and three conservatorships; represented both the buyer and the seller in the sale of real property despite a conflict of interest; and failed to file consents to his continued representation as counsel to an executor in light of the various roles he held, as directed by the Court. The respondent also charged clearly excessive legal fees. By his conduct, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.1; 1.3; 1.4(a) and (b); 1.5(a); 1.7(a) and (b); 1.15(c) and (d); 3.4(c); 5.7(a) and (b); and 8.4(d) and (h).

On August 31, 2017, bar counsel filed a petition for discipline. On December 22, 2017, the respondent filed an affidavit of resignation. On January 8, 2018, the Board of Bar Overseers voted to recommend that the affidavit of resignation be accepted as a disciplinary sanction. On February 5, 2018, the Supreme Judicial Court entered a judgment accepting the affidavit of resignation as a disciplinary sanction, with an effective date of March 15, 2018.

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

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