

**WILLIAM CLARENCE LEONARD**

**Public Reprimand No. 2018-5**

**Order (public reprimand) entered by the Board on August 22, 2018.**

**SUMMARY<sup>1</sup>**

Between about 2010 and 2017, the respondent deposited earned fee payments to a non-trust money market account and held those funds in the account. During that period, the respondent deposited advance fee payments to the same money market account. Those advance fee payments were trust funds within the meaning of Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15(a)(1). By depositing the advance fee payments to his money market account rather than to a trust account, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15(b)(1) as then in effect.

The respondent also had an IOLTA account and used that account for client funds. From about 2009 to early 2018, the respondent failed to make and maintain all records as required by Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15(f) for his IOLTA account. His failure to do so violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.15(f)(1)(B)-(E) as then in effect.

The respondent was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 2004. He had no history of discipline.

The matter came before the Board of Bar Overseers on the parties' stipulation of facts and rule violations and an agreed recommendation for discipline by public reprimand, on condition that the respondent have his compliance with Rule 1.15(f) reviewed by the Massachusetts Law Office Management Assistance Program (LOMAP) and continue thereafter to comply fully with that rule. In July 2018, the board voted to accept the stipulation and impose a public reprimand on the stated conditions without further proceedings.

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<sup>1</sup> Compiled by the Board of Bar Overseers based on the record of proceedings before the board.