2024PR00036

BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY REGISTRATION AND DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

JASON PAUL YOUNG,

Commission No. 2024PR00036

Attorney-Respondent,

No. 6279522.

COMPLAINT

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator of the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission ("Commission"), by her attorney, Rachel C. Miller, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 753(b), complains of Respondent, Jason Paul Young ("Respondent"), who was licensed to practice law in Illinois on May 8, 2003, and alleges that Respondent has engaged in the following conduct which subjects him to discipline pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 753(b):

COUNT I

(Dishonesty in Employment at the Illinois Attorney General's Office)

- 1. Prior to February 3, 2020, Respondent operated Jason Young Law Office as a sole practitioner. He practiced primarily in the areas of domestic relations and criminal defense.
- 2. On February 3, 2020, Respondent began working in a full-time position as an Assistant Attorney General in the Child Support Enforcement Bureau in Springfield.
- 3. At all times related to this complaint, the Illinois Attorney General policy and procedures manual, section 8.1.7, stated that, "Assistant Attorneys General shall not engage in the private practice of law." Section 4.1.10(b)(2)(D) of the Illinois Attorney General policy and procedures manual further stated that, "An employee may not engage in any paid or non-paid

6/26/2024 7:04 AM ARDC Clerk employment outside the office which may create an actual conflict of interest or an appearance of conflict of interest. An employee may not use office time, equipment, resources, or personnel in any outside paid or non-paid employment."

- 4. Between February 10, 2022, and June 8, 2023, Respondent appeared in Morgan County on behalf of his wife, attorney Salena Young ("S. Young"), in juvenile abuse and neglect matters for which S. Young had been appointed. Respondent appeared in Morgan County in S. Young's juvenile abuse and neglect cases on at least 18 separate days.
- 5. At no time when appearing in court for S. Young in Morgan County did Respondent use benefit time or reflect on his timekeeping log that he was not engaged in work for the Illinois Attorney General.
- 6. On at least 18 occasions, Respondent submitted timekeeping records which showed he clocked in and worked for the Illinois Attorney General's Office when he was actually appearing in Morgan County on S. Young's matters.
- 7. Respondent's timekeeping logs reflecting that he worked full days for the Illinois Attorney General's office on the 18 occasions described in paragraph four through six, above, was false, because he appeared in Morgan County for at least a portion of the day.
- 8. Respondent knew at the time that he submitted the timekeeping logs to the Illinois Attorney General's office reflecting that he was clocked in and working for the Illinois Attorney General, as described in paragraphs four through six, above, that the timekeeping logs were false.
- 9. By reason of the conduct described above, Respondent has engaged in the following misconduct:
 - engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, by conduct including knowingly submitting false timesheets to the Illinois Attorney General's office, as

described in paragraphs four through six, above, in violation of Rule 8.4(c) of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct (2010).

WHEREFORE, the Administrator respectfully requests that this matter be assigned to a panel of the Hearing Board, that a hearing be held, and that the panel make findings of fact, conclusions of fact and law, and a recommendation for such discipline as is warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

Lea S. Gutierrez, Administrator Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission

By: /s/ Rachel C. Miller
Rachel C. Miller

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