

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Complainant,

v.

CHRISTOPHER M. CHESTNUT,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case No.
SC18-1614

The Florida Bar File Nos.
2017-00,372(4D), 2018-00,372(4B),
2018-00,441(4C) and 2018-00,481(4D)

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**THE FLORIDA BAR'S OBJECTION TO RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE INITIAL BRIEF**

COMES NOW THE FLORIDA BAR and objects to Respondent's request for extension of time in which to file his brief and states:

1. The last day of the four-day final hearing was on April 3, 2019.
2. The Referee served his Report of Referee on May 30, 2019.
3. On June 3, 2019, the Report of Referee was docketed.
4. Consequently, pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.7(c)(1), the parties have until August 5, 2019, to file a notice of intent to seek review of the report of referee.
5. On June 13, 2019, Respondent filed his Notice of Intent to Seek Review. It should be noted that although filed on June 13, 2019, Respondent's Certificate of Service is inaccurately dated May 13, 2019.

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6. In the meantime, on May 3, 2019, this Court disbarred Respondent in consolidated cases SC16-797, SC16-1480, and SC17-307, the disbarment to take effect 30 days hence or on or about June 3, 2019.

7. Ten days later, Respondent filed his Notice of Intent to Seek Review as noted above.

8. By virtue of filing this Notice and pursuant to Rule 3-7.7(c)(3), Respondent's Brief was due no later than July 15, 2019.

9. However, instead of filing a brief, on July 9, 2019, Respondent filed the instant Motion for a 90-Day Extension to File Initial Brief.

10. In his motion, Respondent argues that he is seeking appellate counsel which he needs to file this matter since he has been disbarred.

11. However, Respondent has known since at least May 30, 2019, what the Referee's findings and recommendation were.

12. Instead of working on his brief, in the interim Respondent has squandered his time and this Court's resources by filing with this Court several copies of the following: Notice of Filing Affirmative Defenses, Respondent's Affirmative Defenses and Answer to Complaint, and Respondent's Affirmative Defenses to the Complaint – all of which are irrelevant and already formed part of the record.

13. In addition, Respondent has had all of this time to secure representation and should have done so rather than repeatedly filing the same irrelevant court papers over and over.

14. The alleged fact that he has been looking for appellate counsel and has been, thus far, unsuccessful is also irrelevant under The Rules Regulating The Florida Bar which provide the governing time-lines.

15. Respondent's entire documented history in this, and his other previous discipline cases, has been one of creating chaos and confusion in order to cause delay and continuances.

16. That behavior continues unabated.

17. Respondent was disbarred and his wind-up period has ended. He can therefore not have any clients, client matters to attend to, or court appearances. The only matter left pending is this case and his present intent to appeal.

18. His failure to timely prosecute this appeal is attributable to him alone and is the product of his own actions and inactions.

19. It is inconceivable why he believes he should be entitled to an additional 90-day extension when such requests are routinely denied to similarly situated attorneys who likewise fail to follow the Rules.

WHEREFORE, The Florida Bar respectfully requests that this Honorable Court deny Respondent's request for additional time to file his brief and dismiss his notice of intent to seek review.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify the foregoing has been furnished via Portal email to Respondent at his record Bar email address (which is incorrect and has pointed out several times to Respondent), litigation@chestnutfirm.com, and to Respondent's correct email address, chris.chestnut@chestnutfirm.com, and to Allison C. Sackett, Interim Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, asackett@floridabar.org, on this 15th day of July, 2019.



Carlos Alberto Leon, Bar Counsel