

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Madison Brinkman – License #687

Date: December 2, 2020

Violation:

Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-8B-3 – No person, except as otherwise provided by law, shall practice or attempt to practice court reporting in this state or hold himself or herself out as a court reporter unless the person is a licensed court reporter.

Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-8B-8 – After January 1, 2007, any person who undertakes or attempts to undertake the practice of court reporting for remuneration without first having procured a license, or who knowingly presents or files false information with the board for the purpose of obtaining a license or who violates this chapter shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor. A person who is not licensed may not bring or maintain an action to recover fees for court reporting services that he or she performed in violation of this chapter. Whenever it appears to the board that any court reporter has violated this chapter, the board may, in its own name, petition the circuit court of the county in which the violation occurred to enjoin the violation.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, r. 257-X-5-.02(2) (2016) – The following may be grounds for denial of a license: Engaging in fraud, misrepresentation, deception, or concealment of a material fact in applying for or securing licensure or taking any examination required for licensure.

Disposition:

Board and respondent entered into a consent order under which the board granted an application for licensure subject to stipulations agreed to by respondent, including payment of a fine in the amount of \$750, completion of Board-approved continuing education, notification to any persons or entities for whom reporting services were provided that respondent was not licensed, and restitution by respondent to any such persons or entities of any fees paid for services provided prior to licensure.

Tara Seay-Hunter - License #487

Date: May 17, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license for her 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 license renewals.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2015, 2016, and 2017 license renewals.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(6) (2017) - Respondent failed to respond to the Board's request for documentation in support of her application for her 2015, 2016, and 2017 license renewals.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for her 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 license renewals.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(5)(i) (2017) -

Respondent failed to respond to the Board's requests to complete the name change as required.

Disposition:

License Revoked.

Karen Kelley - License #317

Date: April 5, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2017

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2017 and 2018.

Disposition:

Voluntary Surrender

Melanie Petix - License #412

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her 2015, 2016, and 2017 license renewals.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(6) (2017) - The Board may fine, suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline any court reporter upon proof that the person: Has failed to respond to official Board correspondence, including but not limited to, requests for information, subpoenas, or notices. To date, Respondent has failed to respond to the Board's request for documentation in support of her 2015, 2016, and 2017 license renewals, as requested by the Board.

Disposition:

License Suspended from the effective date of the Board Order until such time as she complies in full with all of the requirements of this Order and proof thereof has been

provided to, reviewed by and accepted by the Board. Pay an administrative fine of \$3,500.00; obtain fifteen (15) hours of Board-approved CE Credits; obtain an additional five (5) hours of Board-approved CE credit in ethics.

Janet Carter - License #531

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewals for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Disposition:

License Suspended from the effective date of the Board Order until such time as she complies in full with all of the requirements of this Order and proof thereof has been provided to, reviewed by and accepted by the Board. Pay an administrative fine of \$3,500.00; obtain fifteen (15) hours of Board-approved CE Credits; obtain an additional five (5) hours of Board-approved CE credit in ethics.

Jennifer Landrum - License #611

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) - (1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2017

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2017 and 2018.

Disposition:

Pay an administrative fine of \$2,000.00; obtain five (5) hours of Board approved CE to complete deficient CE hours for 2017 license renewal; obtain five (5) additional hours of Board approved CE in Ethics.

Karen Kelley - License #317

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2017

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2017 and 2018.

Disposition:

Pay an administrative fine of \$2,000.00; obtain five (5) hours of Board approved CE to complete deficient CE hours for 2017 license renewal; obtain five (5) additional hours of Board approved CE in Ethics.

Kara Scoggins - License #624

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2018.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewal for 2018.

Disposition:

Pay an administrative fine of \$1,000.00; obtain three (3) hours of Board approved CE in ethics.

Judy Bresnan - License #459

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of her license renewal for 2018.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Respondent falsely certified her compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewal for 2018.

Disposition:

Pay an administrative fine of \$1,000.00; obtain three (3) hours of Board approved CE in ethics.

Betsy Peterson - License #543

Date: February 22, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(6) (2017) - The Board may fine, suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline any court reporter upon proof that the person: has failed to respond to official Board correspondence, including, but not limited to, requests for information, subpoenas, or notices.

Respondent failed to respond to the Board's October 1, 2018 request for documentation in support of her 2015, 2016, and 2017 license renewals and failed to contact the Board or provide any reason for her failure to respond for ninety (90) days.

Disposition:

Pay an administrative fine of \$750.00.

Ann McMichael - License #23

Date: January 17, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) - (1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of license renewals for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Each renewal applicant shall certify, on the renewal application, full compliance with the CE Requirements set forth in subsections (a) and (b) above.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(3) (2017) - The Board may require additional evidence of compliance with the CE Requirements (e.g., license of attendance) in the course of a Board audit. It is the responsibility of each renewal applicant to retain or otherwise produce evidence of compliance for the current renewal year and the three (3) years previous to the current renewal year.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(6) (2017) - The Board may fine, suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline any court reporter upon proof that the person: Has failed to respond to official Board correspondence, including, but not limited to, requests for information, subpoenas, or notices.

Disposition:

Voluntary Surrender (Revocation) of License

Dana Fannin - License #437

Date: January 16, 2019

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.01(1) (2017) - Every licensee who applies for renewal of a license shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education (CE) relevant to the practice of court reporting: has failed to provide proof of compliance with the Board's CE requirements in support of license renewals for 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Each renewal applicant shall certify, on the renewal application, full compliance with the CE Requirements set forth in subsections (a) and (b) above: falsely certified compliance with the CE requirements when she completed her online license renewals for 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Disposition:

Voluntary Surrender (Revocation) of License

Margaret Johnson - License #488

Date: December 10, 2018

Violation:

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(1)(b) (2017) -

(1) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by: (b) Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, or reinstatement of license.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(1) (2017) - Each renewal applicant shall certify, on the renewal application, full compliance with the CE Requirements set forth in subsections (a) and (b) above.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-6-.05(3) (2017) - The Board may require additional evidence of compliance with the CE Requirements (e.g., license of attendance) in the course of a Board audit. It is the responsibility of each renewal applicant to retain or otherwise produce evidence of compliance for the current renewal year and the three (3) years previous to the current renewal year.

Alabama Board of Court Reporting Administrative Code, § 257-X-5-.03(6) (2017) - The Board may fine, suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline any court reporter upon proof that the person: Has failed to respond to official Board correspondence, including, but not limited to, requests for information, subpoenas, or notices.

Disposition:

Voluntary Surrender (Revocation) of License

Alicia Martin – License #215

Date: March 26, 2018

Violation:

ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 275-X-4-.01 (c) – A licensee, if requested, shall provide information regarding services to be rendered regarding administration of professional services to all parties. The licensee must strive to meet promised delivery dates whenever possible, make timely delivery of transcripts when no date is specified, and provide immediate notification of

delays.

ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 275-X-5-.03(5)(b) – Is guilty of unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or injure the public in matters of court reporting, which includes, but is not limited to: (b) Failure to practice court reporting in accordance with the standards of practice adopted by the Board.

ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 275-X-5-.03(7)(c) – Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of statute or rule that includes but is not limited to: (c) Continued violation of statute or rule after notice by the Board.

ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 275-X-5-.03 (7)(d) – Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of a statute or rule that includes but is not limited to: (d) Failure to comply with any stipulated terms and conditions of any Board order or contract.

Disposition:

Voluntary Surrender (Revocation) of License

Alicia Martin – License #215

Date: July 10, 2017

Violation:

Alabama Code Section 34-8B-8 – Practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license;

ABCR Regulation 257-X-2-.01 – The licensee shall notify the Board office of any change in the licensee's address within thirty (30) days of the change. The address of record is the address provided by the applicant or licensee;

ABCR Regulation 257-X-4-.01(c) – A licensee, if requested, shall provide information regarding services to be rendered regarding administration of delivery dates whenever possible, make timely delivery of transcripts when no date is specified, and provide immediate notification of delays;

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03 (b) – Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, reactivation, or reinstatement of license;

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03(g) – representing oneself as a court reporter without a license; and

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03 – It is the responsibility of each licensee to notify the Board of any change of address within thirty (30) days. Failure to receive a renewal form from the Board shall not constitute an excuse for failure to renew licensure.

Disposition:

(A.) The Respondent hereby agrees to pay a fine of \$2,500.00 within 90 days of the execution of this agreement.

(B.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the issuance of the Final Order, then proceedings will be initiated to revoke her license.

(C.) Respondent agrees to complete (5) five continuing education hours in ethics, to be approved by the ABCR in advance, and completed within six months of the date of the Final Order. Respondent understands these hours cannot be used to meet the continuing education requirements for license renewal and shall be in addition to the (5) five continuing education hours required for license renewal.

(D.) Respondent hereby certifies that the Stone trial transcript paid for on June 17, 2016, has been completed and delivered by the date of this agreement.

(E.) Respondent understands this Consent Order and subsequent Final Order will become a matter of public record. Respondent further understands this information will be placed on the Board's web site and released to all interested parties.

(F.) Respondent understands her ABCR license will be placed on a probationary status for (2) years effective immediately from the date of issue of a Final Order by the Board. Respondent understands that during this probationary period she may continue to practice court reporting, and non-compliance with any of the terms of this consent order will result in immediate proceedings to revoke her license. Likewise, the receipt of any further complaints during the probationary period will result in ABCR initiating revocation proceedings if the complaint is substantiated and cannot be cured immediately.

(G.) During the probationary period, Respondent consents to monitoring of her current case load and status of her work in progress by the Board. To facilitate monitoring, the Board will establish a committee that will meet with the Respondent at each regularly scheduled Board meeting during the probationary period.

Respondent agrees to attend, in person, each Board meeting during the probationary period for the purpose of discussing her current case load with the committee. Respondent shall be excused from attending a regularly scheduled meeting only in exigent circumstances that shall be reported to the Executive Director of the Board. It is expected that Respondent will complete all jobs in a timely manner in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Board. It is also expected that the Respondent will complete her current backlog of transcripts before accepting any further court reporting assignments.

(H.) Respondent agrees to request, by and through her attorneys, that the statement made on her behalf to al.com by her attorney be retracted and rescinded, and apologize for stating or implying that ABCR committed a ministerial error or did anything improper with regard to Alicia Martin's license. Such request or statement shall be delivered to al.com and the reporter responsible for the article, Kent Faulk, within (14) days of the date of this order. Said statement shall come from Richard Jaffe and be attached as an Addendum to this agreement.

Jennifer Head – License #205

Date: May 12, 2017

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license); and

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03(g) representing oneself as a court reporter without a license.

Disposition:

(A.) The Respondent hereby agrees to pay a fine of \$1,000.00 within 90 days;

(B.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, that her license shall be suspended without further notice on the fifth (5th) day following the 90 day payment deadline;

(C.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, the proceeding will be initiated to revoke her license.

Shelley McKinney – License #581

Date: May 12, 2017

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license); and

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03(g) representing oneself as a court reporter without a

license.

Disposition:

- (A.) The Respondent hereby agrees to pay a fine of \$1,000.00 within 90 days;
- (B.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, that her license shall be suspended without further notice on the fifth (5th) day following the 90 day payment deadline;
- (C.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, the proceeding will be initiated to revoke her license.

Cheryl T. Lee – License #521

Date: May 12, 2017

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license); and

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03(g) representing oneself as a court reporter without a license.

Disposition:

- (A.) The Respondent hereby agrees to pay a fine of \$500.00 within 90 days;
- (B.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, that her license shall be suspended without further notice on the fifth (5th) day following the 90 day payment deadline;
- (C.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, the proceeding will be initiated to revoke her license.

Alicia Martin – License #215

Date: March 20, 2012

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license).

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03(g) representing oneself as a court reporter without a license

Disposition:

- (A.) \$300 Fine to ABCR within 90 days
- (B.) The Respondent hereby agrees to refund Attorney Jeffrey Bramer \$100.00 for the cost of the transcript he never received. To evidence refund to Jeffrey Bramer, Martin agrees to provide ABCR, within sixty (60) days of execution of this agreement, a cancelled check or money order receipt made payable to Jeffrey Bramer with the memo line stating: "refund of court reporter services paid in the matter of Daniel Stennis (CC-I 0-2911)."
- (C.) The respondent hereby agrees to a six (6) month probationary period. If the ABCR receives a complaint against the Respondent, that the investigative committee determines probable cause exists to warrant disciplinary action during the six (6) month probationary period, the ABCR shall begin proceedings immediately to request that the Respondent's license be REVOKED.
- (D.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine is not paid and/or reimbursement are not made within 90 days of the execution of the settlement agreement, that her license shall be suspended without further notice on the fifth (5th) day following the 90 day payment deadline.

(E.) The Respondent hereby agrees that, if the agreed upon fine and/or reimbursement is not paid within one year of the execution of the settlement agreement, that proceedings will be initiated to revoke her license.

Shelley Bishop – License #581

Date: November 13, 2009

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license).

Disposition: \$100 Fine to ABCR.

Jada Patterson – License #548

Date: November 14, 2008

Violation:

Section 34-8B-8 (a) (practicing court reporting for remuneration without first procuring a license); and

ABCR Regulation 257-X-5-.03 (g) (representing oneself as a court reporter without a license).

Disposition: \$1,000 Fine to ABCR; and refund payment for court reporting services performed while unlicensed.

Note: To request copy of a Consent Order for any of the above disciplinary actions, please send a signed written request to board@abcr.alabama.gov.