

**FILED**

APR 24 2007

*Joe Davis*  
**STATE BAR OF NEVADA**

1 Case No. N06-27-906

STATE BAR OF NEVADA

NORTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

5 STATE BAR OF NEVADA, )  
 6 Complainant, )  
 7 vs. )  
 8 KENT B. HANSON, ESQ., )  
 9 Respondent. )

**PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

12 TO: KENT B. HANSON, ESQ.

13 In 2005, Martha Bleak bought a mobile home in Reno, Nevada. Shortly thereafter,  
 14 mold damage was discovered in her home. In November 2005, Ms. Bleak and her son,  
 15 Ken Bleak, retained you to represent them in connection with possible legal action  
 16 against the seller and/or real estate agent.

17 Specifically, you were retained to (1) research the law regarding disclosure  
 18 requirements for the sale of mobile homes, and (2) attempt to negotiate a settlement with  
 19 the real estate company. You received a retainer of \$1,000 (one thousand dollars).

20 Between March and May 2006, Mr. Bleak left numerous messages with you  
 21 requesting information on the status of their matter. However, after you failed to return  
 22 his messages, Mr. Bleak and his mother hired other counsel in May 2006.

23 Between May and July 2006, Mr. Bleak and his mother made numerous attempts  
 24 to obtain the return of their file and a refund of the retainer.

25 ///

Effective April 24, 2007  
Bar #3729

1 You ultimately provided Mr. Bleak with a five-page, handwritten document that  
2 represented your legal research into their matter. You refunded \$123.61 (one hundred  
3 twenty-three dollars and sixty-one cents), which you claimed was the unearned portion of  
4 the original retainer.

5 The State Bar initially sent you three (3) letters (July 6, July 27 and August 11,  
6 2006, the latter two (2) sent by certified mail with signed receipts returned to the Office of  
7 Bar Counsel) requesting your written response to Mr. Bleak's grievance. The August 11  
8 letter warned that if you did not provide a response, a grievance file would be opened and  
9 this matter would be presented to a screening panel of the Northern Nevada Disciplinary  
10 Board with the assumption that Mr. Bleak's allegations were true.

11 You did not provide a response. Accordingly, a grievance file was opened and  
12 you were so informed in a certified letter dated August 24, 2006. That letter directed you  
13 to provide a response by September 4, 2006. A signed receipt for the August 24 letter  
14 was returned to the State Bar.

15 On October 4, 2006, in response to two (2) telephone messages left a week earlier  
16 by the State Bar, you left a message saying that you would provide a response by the  
17 end of that week.

18 On October 12, 2006, a State Bar attorney left a telephone message requesting  
19 that you contact the Office of Bar Counsel. The message was not returned.

20 In a letter dated October 24, 2006, the State Bar directed you to provide the Office  
21 of Bar Counsel "with a comprehensive and detailed explanation of your work done on  
22 behalf of your clients, and what you did to earn whatever you have been paid."


23 ///  
24 ///  
25 ///

1 You responded with a one-sentence letter dated October 28, 2006, with a copy of  
2 an October 3, 2006, billing statement to the Bleaks attached. The State Bar responded  
3 on November 7, 2006, with a letter reiterating that you needed to provide "a detailed  
4 explanation" of your representation. However, you did not provide any further response.

5 In mitigation, you have agreed to fully refund the original retainer.

6 In light of the foregoing, you violated Supreme Court Rule ("SCR") 153/Rule of  
7 Professional Conduct ("RPC") 1.3 (Diligence), SCR 154/RPC 1.4 (Communication) and  
8 RPC 8.1(b) (Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters) and are hereby PUBLICLY  
9 REPRIMANDED.

10 Dated this 24th day of April, 2007.

11  
12  
13   
14 CARYNS. TIJSSELING, ESQ.  
15 Formal Hearing Panel Chair  
16 Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25