



6  
7  
8

BEFORE THE  
DISCIPLINARY BOARD  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

9  
10  
11

In re  
D. DOUGLAS TITUS  
Lawyer (Bar No. 26644).

Proceeding No. *15-#00081*  
ADMONITION

12  
13  
14

Pursuant to Rule 13.5 of the rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct, the following  
Admonition was issued by the Chair of the Review Committee.

15

**I. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE**

16  
17

At all times material to the complaint, you were licensed to practice in the state of  
Washington.

18

**II. FACTS**

19  
20  
21

1. In June 2013, you agreed to represent a client interested in transferring her house from  
an irrevocable trust to her son. You told the client, as well as her son and daughter, that you  
would perform the work and that the cost would range from \$1,200 to \$1,500. You charged  
\$200 for a consultation and received an additional \$200 in advance fees.

22  
23  
24

2. Over the next year, you failed to provide your client with any documentation to  
effectuate the transfer. One of the client's adult children, Charlotte, called you every two to

*DDV*

1 three weeks to check on the status, but you still did not complete the work. You promised to get  
2 back to her, but often did not do so.

3 3. In May 2014, you advised Charlotte that you would be associating with another lawyer  
4 to perform the work and that the cost would \$3,000 to \$5,000.

5 4. In June 2015, Charlotte terminated the representation.

6 **III. MISCONDUCT**

7 5. By failing to complete the work that you were hired to perform, you violated RPC 1.3  
8 (diligence).

9 6. By failing to keep your client reasonably informed about the status of matter and to  
10 explain the matter to the extent reasonably necessary for her to make informed decisions, you  
11 violated RPC 1.4 (communication).

12  
13 **IV. ADMONITION**

14 YOU ARE HEREBY ADMONISHED FOR THIS MISCONDUCT. This admonition is  
15 not a disciplinary sanction, but is a disciplinary action, and shall be admissible in evidence in  
16 subsequent discipline or disability proceedings involving you.

17 You may protest the issuance of this Admonition by filing a written notice of protest  
18 with the Association-Attention: Clerk to the Disciplinary Board, within 30 days of the service of  
19 this Admonition upon you. Upon receipt of a timely protest, this Admonition shall be  
20 rescinded, and the grievance by shall be deemed ordered to hearing.

21 Dated this 22 day of September, 2015.

22   
23 Kathryn Berger, Chair  
24 Review Committee III

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I caused a copy of the Admission  
to be delivered to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and to be mailed  
to Leland Kivley Respondent/Resident's Counsel  
at PO Box 1722 Durall, WA 98019 by Certified/first class mail,  
postage prepaid on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of SEPTEMBER, 2015

[Signature]  
Clerk/Counsel to the Disciplinary Board