

FILED

MAR 12 2013

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

YONG J. HAN,
Lawyer (Bar No. 26825).

Proceeding No. 11#00051

REPRIMAND

Under the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct promulgated by the Supreme Court of the State of Washington, you have been directed to receive this FORMAL REPRIMAND.

In 2008, you were the director and sole owner of "HJ Law, Ltd." In May 2008, Hyunsik Kong approached your firm to help him obtain a "green card." At the time, you anticipated being suspended or disbarred as the result of prior disciplinary proceedings and you were in the process of leaving your law practice to start work in a non-lawyer position in the private sector. Without your knowledge, Kevin Choi, your legal assistant and office manager, met with and agreed to help Kong, executed a fee agreement with him and told him what documents would be needed for the immigration matter. Kong ultimately wrote checks totaling \$3,500 to your firm, of which \$2,500 was deposited in the firm's operating account and \$1,000 was taken by Choi. You were unaware of the representation and the payments, never met Kong, performed no

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1 services for him, and did not monitor Choi's actions. After more than a year passed and Choi
2 failed to perform the services for which Kong had paid, Kong terminated the representation and
3 filed a grievance against you. Although you had had no dealings with Kong, when you learned
4 that \$2,500 of his funds had gone into the firm's operating account, you sent him a letter of
5 apology and a refund check for that amount.

6 Your conduct in failing to ensure that the conduct of Kevin Choi was compatible with
7 your own professional obligations, violated RPC 5.3(a).

8 These actions merit a Formal Reprimand. Your actions discredit you and the legal
9 profession and show a disregard for the high traditions of honor expected from a member of the
10 Association.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, YOU ARE HEREBY REPRIMANDED by the Washington State
12 Bar Association for this misconduct. This Reprimand will be made a part of your permanent
13 record with the Association, and will be considered along with other evidence regarding any
14 future grievances against you.

15 Your privilege to practice law in the State of Washington is based on the finding that
16 you are a person of good moral character, and on your commitment to abide by the rules
17 governing the conduct of members of the Association. The Association expects all your future
18 conduct as a lawyer to be consistent with that finding as to your character, and with a continuing
19 commitment on your part to the letter and spirit of those rules.

20 Dated this 8th day of March, 2013.

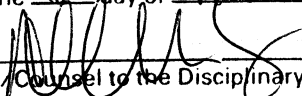
21 WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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23 Michele Radosevich, President

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I caused a copy of the Reprimand
to be delivered to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and to be mailed
to Linda Riley, Respondent/Respondent's Counsel
at PO Box 130 Durr, WA 99019, by Certified/first class mail,
postage prepaid on the 12th day of March, 2013


Clerk/Counsel to the Disciplinary Board

Memorandum

To: Allison Sato, Clerk to Disciplinary Board

From: Natalea Skvir, Disciplinary Counsel *NS*

Date: March 12, 2013

Re: Service of Reprimand on Yong J. Han

I am attaching an original reprimand for service on Yong J. Han. I have filed the duplicate original in the public file.

Thank you.