IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

65,706

FILED

SID J. WHITE

AUG 6 1984

CLERK, SUPREME COURT

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Complainant,

DREW C. APGAR,

v.

Respondent.

CASE NO.

The Florida Bar Case No. 15A82F14

CONFIDENTIAL Disputy Clerk

RESPONDENT'S CONDITIONAL GUILTY PLEA FOR CONSENT JUDGMENT

COMES NOW, Drew C. Apgar, Respondent, pursuant to article XI of the Integration Rule of The Florida Bar, and hereby tenders his Consent Plea for a Public Reprimand and states as follows:

- 1. The Respondent, Drew C. Apgar, is and at all times hereinafter mentioned, was a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction and disciplinary rules of the Supreme Court of Florida.
- 2. Respondent is 34 years of age and has been a member of The Florida Bar since December 18, 1975.
- 3. Respondent is acting freely and voluntarily in this cause.
- 4. The following constitutes a statement of the pending disciplinary action in which Respondent is the accused:
- A. That on or about September 15, 1979, I was retained by Sara B. Geiser to begin divorce proceedings against her husband and to secure a lien on a semi-tractor truck in the possession of her husband. My client was a co-signator on a ten thousand (\$10,000) dollar second mortgage which had been used to purchase such truck.

That I failed to proceed in a reasonable manner to file divorce papers with the proper court or to obtain service of process on the husband. That my actions necessitated my client, Ms. Geiser, hiring other counsel to complete her legal matters. As of October 1981 I had not moved the matter toward conclusion. That on or about March 25, 1981, I advised Sara Geiser to sign a Property Settlement Agreement, which provided in respect to marital property, that "wife agrees to pay any mortgage until the said property is sold." That after signing the Agreement, but before her husband had signed such Agreement, Sara B. Geiser notified me that she did not like the Agreement and did not want it signed by her husband because she believed same would continue her liability on the second mortgage which had been used to purchase the semi-tractor truck. F. That despite my client's expressed desires, I obtained the signature of the husband on such Agreement. G. That I thought it was in my client's best interests to proceed as I did in her case because of the difficult nature of her husband. That, because of clear and present threats by the husband to my client (and her children of a prior marriage) and the husband's history of unpredictable violent behavior, service of process was not sought after the timely filing of the initial pleadings in favor of mediation and the client's negotiations of a settlement agreement when the husband was located and it was learned he had no job or assets. Η. That since the husband made changes on the agreement, I considered that the agreement would only be valid upon my client's resigning of same. Regarding the facts recited in this Guilty Plea, I, Drew C. Apgar, admit my guilt to having violated Disciplinary Rules 6-101, 7-101(A)(2) and 7-101(A)(3) of the Code of Professional Responsibility. -2-

- 6. I am no longer actively engaged in the practice of law.
- 7. I, Drew C. Apgar, agree to receive a Public Reprimand concerning my conduct in this case.
- I agree that confidentiality of the matters stated in this Guilty Plea be waived.
- I agree to be liable for the costs incurred by The Florida Bar in prosecuting this disciplinary proceeding against me, the amount being \$421.55 (copying, administrative and court reporter costs).
- This Guilty Plea will be of no force and effect if not approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar and the Supreme Court of Florida.

DATED this26 TH	day of June, 1984.
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