

# Supreme Court of Florida

No. 67,692

THE FLORIDA BAR, Complainant,

v.

CHRISTOPHER J. SCHILLING, Respondent.

[February 27, 1986]

PER CURIAM.

In this grievance procedure against Christopher J. Schilling, a member of The Florida Bar, the referee has recommended that we find Mr. Schilling guilty of violating Disciplinary Rule 6-101(A)(3) of the Code of Professional Responsibility.\* The referee concluded that the respondent had neglected responsibilities in two matters he took for representation. In light of Schilling's past conduct he recommends a public reprimand, six-month suspension, and assessment of costs.

We approve the report and the recommendation. Confidence in, and proper utilization of, the legal system is adversely affected when a lawyer fails to diligently pursue a legal matter entrusted to that lawyer's care. A failure to do so is a direct violation of the oath a lawyer takes upon his admission to the bar. Christopher J. Schilling is hereby publicly reprimanded for his failure to fulfill his lawyer obligations. His suspension will be effective thirty days from the date this opinion is

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\* Fla. Bar Code Prof. Resp., D.R. 6-101(A)(3), provides:

(A) A lawyer shall not:

(3) Neglect a legal matter entrusted to him.

filed. Judgment for costs in the amount of \$680.23 is hereby entered against Schilling, for which sum let execution issue.

It is so ordered.

ADKINS, Acting Chief Justice, and McDONALD, EHRLICH, SHAW and BARKETT, JJ., Concur

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE REHEARING MOTION AND, IF FILED, DETERMINED. THE FILING OF A MOTION FOR REHEARING SHALL NOT ALTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUSPENSION.

Original Proceeding - The Florida Bar

John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director and John T. Berry,  
Staff Counsel, Tallahassee, Florida; and David M. Barnovitz,  
Bar Counsel, Fort Lauderdale, Florida,

for Complainant

No Appearance,

for Respondent