

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on the 14th day of June, 1995, the following order was made and entered:

Lawyer Disciplinary Board, Complainant

vs.) No. 22452

William Douglas Taylor, a former member
of The West Virginia State Bar, Respondent

On a former day, to-wit, June 2, 1995, came the complainant, the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, by Sherri D. Goodman, its attorney, and presented to the Court its motion in writing requesting that this Court dismiss the Statement of Charges, listing I.D. Nos. 93-02-193, 93-02-292, 93-02-306, 93-02-333, 93-02-352, 94-02-033, 94-02-097 and 94-02-104, filed with this Court on the 10th day of August, 1994, without prejudice, with leave to reinstate said Statement of Charges should respondent file a petition for reinstatement of his license to practice law in the State of West Virginia, in view of the fact that respondent's license to practice law in the State of West Virginia was annulled for violation of 21 U.S.C. Sections 841(a)(1) and 860.

Upon consideration whereof, the Court is of opinion to and doth hereby grant said motion. It is therefore ordered that the Statement of Charges filed with this Court on the 10th day of August, 1994, listing I.D. Nos. 93-02-193, 93-02-292, 93-02-306, 93-02-333, 93-02-352, 94-02-033, 94-02-097 and 94-02-104, be, and it hereby is, dismissed without prejudice, with leave for the Lawyer Disciplinary Board to reinstate said Statement of Charges should respondent petition for reinstatement of his license to practice law in the State of West Virginia, at which time he may be required to answer

the allegations contained in said Statement of Charges. Judge Fred L. Fox, II, sitting
temporary assignment. Justice Brotherton absent.

A True Copy

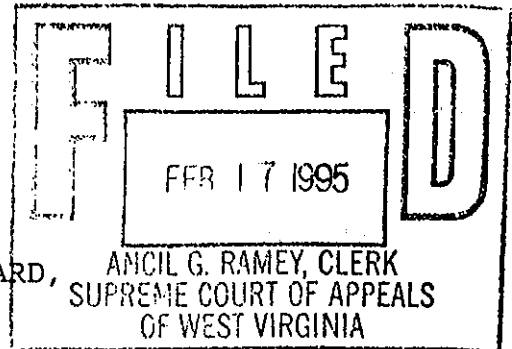
Attest:



Clerk, Supreme Court of Appeals

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

No. 22452



LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARD,
Complainant

v.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS TAYLOR, A
MEMBER OF THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR,
Respondent

Recommendation of the Committee on Legal Ethics
L.E.C. Nos. 93-02-193, 93-02-292,
93-02-306, 93-02-333, 93-02-352,
94-02-033, 94-02-097 and 94-02-104

LICENSE ANNULLED, PLUS COSTS

Submitted: January 10, 1995
Filed: February 17, 1995

Sherri D. Goodman, Esq.
Chief Disciplinary Counsel,
West Virginia State Bar
Charleston, West Virginia

William Douglas Taylor, Pro Se
Martinsburg, West Virginia

The Opinion of the Court was delivered PER CURIAM.
JUSTICE BROTHERTON did not participate.
JUDGE FOX sitting by temporary assignment.

Proof of a final conviction satisfies the Board's burden of proof. Syl. pt. 2, Committee v. Six, supra, states:

Where there has been a final criminal conviction, proof on the record of such conviction satisfies the Committee on Legal Ethics' burden of proving an ethical violation arising from such conviction.

In accord Syl. pt. 2, Committee on Legal Ethics v. Moore, supra; Syl. pt. 1, Committee on Legal Ethics v. Boettner, 183 W. Va. 136, 394 S.E.2d 735 (1990), cert. denied, ___ U.S. ___, 113 S.Ct. 209, 121 L.Ed.2d 149 (1992). The Board in this case satisfied its burden of proving Mr. Taylor's conviction by providing a copy of the September 21, 1994 order of conviction.¹

Rule 8.4 of the West Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct [1989] provides, in pertinent part:

It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to: . . .

(b) commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects;

(c) engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation;

¹The State Bar By-laws, Art. VI, §25 [1991] provide, in pertinent part:

In any proceeding to suspend or annul the license of any such attorney because of his conviction of any crime or crimes mentioned in sections twenty-three or twenty-four, a certified copy of the order or judgment of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of guilt of the crime or crimes of which the attorney has been convicted.

(d) engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice. . . .

In Committee on Legal Ethics v. Boettner, 183 W. Va. at 139, 394 S.E.2d at 738, we noted that Rule 8.4 concentrates on "a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects."

In this case, we find that the Board met its burden of proof to annul Mr. Taylor's license. Accordingly, the Court adopts the Board's recommendation and orders the annulment of Mr. Taylor's license to practice law in the State of West Virginia. We also required Mr. Taylor to reimburse the Board for the costs it incurred in connection with this proceeding.

License annulled.