

Supreme Court of Florida

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020

CASE NO.: SC18-1037

Lower Tribunal No(s):
2017-70,299 (11H); 2017-70,582 (11H)

THE FLORIDA BAR

vs. RAFAEL ANGEL CASTRO, III

Complainant(s)

Respondent(s)

Upon consideration of the report of referee and the briefs filed in this case, the referee's findings of fact and recommendations of guilt are hereby approved. However, the recommended discipline of an eighteen-month suspension followed by two years of supervision is disapproved, and respondent is disbarred effective thirty days from the date of this order so that respondent can close out his practice and protect the interests of existing clients. If respondent notifies this Court in writing that he is no longer practicing and does not need the thirty days to protect existing clients, this Court will enter an order making the disbarment effective immediately. Respondent shall fully comply with Rule Regulating the Florida Bar 3-5.1(h). Further, respondent shall accept no new business from the date this order is filed.

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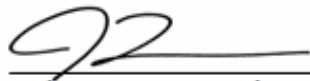
Respondent shall pay restitution in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Rose Gordon and \$16,205.00 to Robert Tilley under the terms and conditions set forth in the report.

Judgment is entered for The Florida Bar, 651 East Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2300, for recovery of costs from Rafael Angel Castro, III in the amount of \$4,302.32, for which sum let execution issue.

Not final until time expires to file motion for rehearing, and if filed, determined. The filing of a motion for rehearing shall not alter the effective date of this disbarment.

CANADY, C.J., and POLSTON, LABARGA, LAWSON, and MUÑIZ, JJ., concur.

A True Copy
Test:



John A. Tomasino
Clerk, Supreme Court



as
Served:
TONYA L. AVERY
RAFAEL ANGEL CASTRO, III
HON. CHRISTINA MARIE DIRAIMONDO, JUDGE
PATRICIA ANN TORO SAVITZ