

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA  
(Before a Grievance Committee)

THE FLORIDA BAR,  
Complainant,

The Florida Bar File  
No. 2022-70,521 (11P)

v.

STEVEN EDWARD AMSTER,  
Respondent.

\_\_\_\_\_/

**GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FINDING OF NON-COMPLIANCE AND  
FAILURE TO RESPOND TO OFFICIAL BAR INQUIRY AND CONTEMPT**

On September 9, 2022, pursuant to Rule 3-7.11(f), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "P" considered whether to issue a Finding of Non-Compliance and Failure to Respond to Official Bar Inquiry and Finding of Contempt and made the following findings:

1. On July 1, 2022, Bar counsel emailed respondent's counsel and requested documents. A copy of the email sent July 1, 2022 is attached hereto as Exhibit "1".

2. On July 7, 2022, Bar counsel's assistant emailed respondent's counsel a letter requesting a response to complainant's letter, of the same date, by July 18, 2022. A copy of the letter dated July 7, 2022 is attached hereto as Exhibit "2".

EXHIBIT  
**A**

RECEIVED, 09/14/2022 10:08:24 AM, Clerk, Supreme Court

3. On that same date, Bar counsel and respondent's counsel exchanged emails relative to his responding to both of the bar's pending request for documents and response to complainant's letter dated July 7, 2022. A copy of the email chain sent on July 7, 2022 is attached hereto as Exhibit "3".

4. On August 8, 2022, Bar counsel sent respondent's counsel a follow-up email and provided a final deadline. A copy of the email sent August 8, 2022 is attached hereto as Exhibit "4".

5. To date, respondent has failed to respond to The Florida Bar's requests for a response and documentation.

6. On August 18, 2022, notice was sent to respondent's counsel advising that the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "P" would be hearing the issue of respondent's failure to respond to official bar inquiries. Respondent was provided the opportunity to provide a written statement to the grievance committee by no later than September 1, 2022. A copy of the letter sent to respondent's counsel dated August 18, 2022, without exhibits, is attached as Exhibit "5".

7. To date, respondent has not submitted a response to the notice regarding the issue of non-compliance.

8. On September 9, 2022, the Grievance Committee found that respondent failed to show good cause for failing to respond to the official bar inquiries and that the non-compliance was willful.

9. Further, the Grievance Committee found respondent to be in contempt and requested The Florida Bar to file a Petition for Contempt and Order to Show Cause with the Supreme Court.


Dated this 13th day of September, 2022.

Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance  
Committee "P"

J  \_\_\_\_\_  
id, Chair

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that the foregoing finding has been furnished to Kevin P. Tynan, Attorney for Respondent, via email to [ktynan@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:ktynan@rtlawoffice.com); and to Leslie Rothenberg, Designated Reviewer, via email to [lbr@ferrarolaw.com](mailto:lbr@ferrarolaw.com); and to Patricia Ann Toro Savitz, Staff Counsel, The Florida Bar, via e-mail to [psavitz@floridabar.org](mailto:psavitz@floridabar.org), this 13th day of September, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rita Florez, Bar Counsel

**Received** Fri 07/01/2022 11:33AM  
**From** Florez, Rita  
**Subject** Amster Request for Additional information TFB File #2018-70,593  
**To** Tynan, Kevin P  
**cc** Porta, Cynthia C  
**bcc**

Dear Mr. Tynan,

Thank you for providing your Notice of Appearance and response to the bar's inquiry. In your client's response, you state that Mr. Amster believes that he made a full refund in this matter already and that this is a second attempt at the same refund. Please provide documentation that the fee was returned to Mr. Yester-Garrido.

Your response is due at the office, preferably via email, by **July 15, 2022**.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Rita Florez

**Rita Florez** | Bar Counsel | The Florida Bar | 305.377.4445

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Please note: Florida has very broad public records laws. Many written communications to or from The Florida Bar regarding Bar business may be considered public records, which must be made available to anyone upon request. Your e-mail communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

EXHIBIT

1



# The Florida Bar

Miami Branch Office  
444 Brickell Avenue  
Rivergate Plaza, Suite M-100  
Miami, Florida 33131-2404  
(305) 377-4445

Joshua E. Doyle  
Executive Director

850/561-5600  
www.FLORIDABAR.org

July 7, 2022

VIA E-Mail to [ktynan@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:ktynan@rtlawoffice.com),

Mr. Kevin P. Tynan, Esq.  
Attorney for Respondent  
8142 N. University Drive  
Tamarac, FL 33321-1708

**Re: *Complaint of Nelson Yester-Garrido against Steven Edward Amster***  
***The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521 (11P)***

Dear Mr. Tynan:

Pursuant to The Florida Bar's investigation of the above-referenced matter, please respond to the following to the allegations set forth in the letter emailed to the bar by Mr. Yester on or before **July 18, 2022**.

Your response is required in writing to the above, pursuant to 4-8.4(g) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Rita Florez  
Bar Counsel

EXHIBIT

2

**Received** Thu 07/07/2022 12:15PM

**From** Florez, Rita

**Subject** RE: Complaint of Nelson Yester-Garrido against Steven Edward Amster; The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521 (11P)

**To** Tynan, Kevin P; Porta, Cynthia C

**cc** Megan Crowley

**bcc**

Of course. Thanks for checking in.

**Rita Florez** | Bar Counsel | The Florida Bar | 305.377.4445

**From:** Kevin Tynan <[ktynan@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:ktynan@rtlawoffice.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 11:35 AM

**To:** Porta, Cynthia C <[CPorta@floridabar.org](mailto:CPorta@floridabar.org)>

**Cc:** Florez, Rita <[RFlorez@floridabar.org](mailto:RFlorez@floridabar.org)>; Megan Crowley <[mcrowley@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:mcrowley@rtlawoffice.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Complaint of Nelson Yester-Garrido against Steven Edward Amster; The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521 (11P)

May I respond to the other letter sent by Bar counsel at the same time?

[Kevin P. Tynan, Esq.](#)

Richardson & Tynan, PLC  
8142 N. University Drive  
Tamarac, FL 33321  
(954)721-7300

The information contained in this transmission may be privileged and confidential information, and is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately reply to the sender that you have received this communication in error and then delete it. Thank you.

**From:** Porta, Cynthia C <[CPorta@floridabar.org](mailto:CPorta@floridabar.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 11:33 AM

**To:** Kevin Tynan <[ktynan@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:ktynan@rtlawoffice.com)>

**Cc:** Florez, Rita <[RFlorez@floridabar.org](mailto:RFlorez@floridabar.org)>; Megan Crowley <[mcrowley@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:mcrowley@rtlawoffice.com)>

**Subject:** Complaint of Nelson Yester-Garrido against Steven Edward Amster; The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521 (11P)

Good morning Mr. Tynan,

Attached please find The Florida Bar's letter of today's date from Rita Florez, Bar Counsel, regarding the above-referenced matter. Please note that a response to same is requested no later than **July 18, 2022**.

Thank you.

Cynthia Porta

EXHIBIT

3

Legal Secretary to Rita Florez, Bar Counsel  
444 Brickell Avenue, Suite M-100  
Miami, Florida 33131  
Phone: (305) 377-4445  
[cporta@floridabar.org](mailto:cporta@floridabar.org)

**THE FLORIDA BAR**



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Please note: Florida has very broad public records laws. Many written communications to or from The Florida Bar regarding Bar business may be considered public records, which must be made available to anyone upon request. Your e-mail communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

**Received** Mon 08/08/2022 10:26AM  
**From** Florez, Rita  
**Subject** Amster  
**To** Tynan, Kevin P  
**cc** Porta, Cynthia C  
**bcc**

Good morning Kevin,

The bar requested information related to a refund provided to Mr. Yester-Garrido. In your client's response, you state that Mr. Amster believes that he made a full refund in this matter already and that this is a second attempt at the same refund on the part of the complainant. We asked you to provide proof of that refund. Additionally, we also requested that your client respond to the allegations set forth in Mr. Yester-Garrido's letter, emailed to the bar on July 7, 2022. The deadline of July 18, 2022 for both requests has come and gone. Please respond by COB on Friday August 12, 2022, to both requests for additional information. Your response is required pursuant to Rule 4-8.4(g) or this matter may be referred to the grievance committee.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rita

**Rita Florez** | Bar Counsel | The Florida Bar | 305.377.4445

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EXHIBIT

4





# The Florida Bar

Miami Branch Office  
444 Brickell Avenue  
Rivergate Plaza, Suite M-100  
Miami, Florida 33131-2404  
(305) 377-4445

Joshua E. Doyle  
Executive Director

850/561-5600  
www.FLORIDABAR.org

August 18, 2022

*Via Email to [ktynan@rtlawoffice.com](mailto:ktynan@rtlawoffice.com)*

Kevin P. Tynan, Attorney for Respondent  
8142 North University Drive  
Tamarac, FL 33321-1708

**Re: *Complaint by Nelson Yester-Garrido against Steven Edward Amster  
The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521(11P)***

Dear Mr. Tynan:

Please be advised that pursuant to Rules 3-7.4 and 3-7.11 of the Rules of Discipline, Grievance Committee "P" of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit will consider whether good cause exists for your client's failure to respond to official Bar Inquiry in The Florida Bar File No. 2022-70,521(11P). In accordance with Rule 3-7.11(f)(2), the Grievance Committee shall hear the issue of non-compliance and issue findings thereon.

Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 3-7.4(a), Rules of Discipline, below is a list of the members of Grievance Committee 11"P". There will be no appearances by either party or by any witnesses in this case.

An index reflecting materials which will be considered by the Grievance Committee, along with copies of said materials, is enclosed herewith. Should you wish to present a written statement to the Grievance Committee pursuant to Rule 3-7.4(h) of the Rules of Discipline, please provide same to me **no later than September 1, 2022.**

Sincerely,

Rita Florez  
Bar Counsel

Enclosures

EXHIBIT  
**5**

# THE FLORIDA BAR

cc: Nelson Yester-Garrido, Complainant  
Jordi C. Martinez-Cid, Esq., Chair  
Leslie Rothenberg, Designated Reviewer

**List of Members of Grievance Committee (11P)**  
**(Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 3-7.4(a), the following is a list of the**  
**members of the Grievance Committee considering this matter)**

Jordi C. Martinez-Cid, Esq., Chair  
Amber Kornreich, Esq., Vice-Chair  
Lianet Rodriguez, Esq.  
Serena A. Witter, Esq.  
Richard D. Shane, Esq.  
John R. Byrne, Esq.  
Dominique Ritchie  
Jeffrey E. Margolis  
Amanda F. Orelus

**Index of Materials to be Reviewed**

1. Email from The Florida Bar to Respondent's counsel sent on July 1, 2022, requesting additional information
2. Letter from The Florida Bar to Respondent's counsel dated July 7, 2022, requesting additional information
3. Email chain between The Florida Bar and Respondent's counsel sent July 7, 2022
4. Follow-up email from The Florida Bar to Respondent's counsel sent August 8, 2022