

DOCKET NO. : SUPERIOR COURT
OFFICE OF CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL : J.D. OF NEW HAVEN
VS. : AT NEW HAVEN
ERICA TODD-TROTTA : JUNE 27, 2024

PRESENTMENT OF ATTORNEY FOR MISCONDUCT

To the Superior Court within and for the Judicial District of New Haven, now in session, comes now the Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel (hereinafter “Disciplinary Counsel”), duly authorized and appointed pursuant to Practice Book § 2-34A, and makes presentment to the Court that Erica Todd-Trotta of New Haven, Connecticut, has been guilty of misconduct involving her character, integrity, and professional standing and conduct, and complains and says:

1. Erica Todd-Trotta, Juris #407314 (hereinafter "the Respondent") is an attorney duly admitted to the bar of the State of Connecticut on December 11, 1992.
2. The Statewide Grievance Committee (hereinafter “SGC”) referred this matter to Disciplinary Counsel pursuant to Practice Book § 2-27(e) and Rule 13 the SGC’s Rules of Procedure.
3. On or about October 16, 2023, the Respondent’s IOLTA account was selected for random audit. The audit was scheduled for November 3, 2023.
4. The Respondent was granted an extension and the audit was rescheduled to December 11, 2023.

5. On December 11, 2023, the SGC conducted the audit. The Respondent's financial records contained numerous deficiencies in violation of Rule 1.15(j) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

6. On or about December 19, 2023, the SGC provided the Respondent with a report card, commentary, summary and directives.

7. The Respondent was directed, inter alia, to provide an accurate general ledger and individual client ledgers, a list of outstanding checks, trial balances (or client totals), and a reconciliation of the account.

8. The Respondent was instructed to create all of the required financial records and to provide them to the SGC by December 29, 2023. She was also instructed to provide the reconciliation of the account by January 31, 2024.

9. The Respondent was further instructed to diligently work to determine ownership of unknown funds in the amount of \$13,501.56 and attribute them to a client, third person, or the Respondent's firm with proper substantiation. The Respondent was instructed to provide a status report by January 16, 2024 and monthly thereafter until resolved.

10. The Respondent did not respond to the December 19, 2023 letter.

11. On January 26, 2024, the SGC sent a letter to the Respondent reminding her of her obligation to comply with the directives. The Respondent did not respond to the letter.

12. On February 8, 2024, the SGC sent another letter to the Respondent advising that if she did not comply with the directives by February 29, 2024, the file would be referred to Disciplinary Counsel for appropriate action.

13. On February 16, 2024, the Respondent spoke with First Assistant Bar Counsel Elizabeth M. Rowe and advised that she had lost her electronic records and was attempting to retrieve them.

14. The Respondent was instructed to provide a status report by April 5, 2024.

15. The Respondent has failed to provide the requested documentation pursuant to the directives issued on December 19, 2023.

16. Accordingly, the Respondent has failed and/or refused to cooperate with the audit in violation of Practice Book § 2-27(e).

17. The Respondent failed to provide the requested documentation to a disciplinary authority in violation of Rule 8.1(2) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Said conduct is also prejudicial to the administration of justice in violation of Rule 8.4(4) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner, Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel, prays that such proceedings may be had on this complaint as is provided by law and the rules of the Court, that an appropriate order of discipline be issued against the Respondent, and that costs and expenses be taxed against the Respondent.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 27th day of June, 2024.

THE PETITIONER
OFFICE OF CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

By: 
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Hartford, CT 06106
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Juris No. 422382

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SUMMONS

To Any Proper Officer:

By the authority of the State of Connecticut, you are hereby commanded to summon Erica Todd-Trotta, with an office address of 900 Chapel Street, 12th Floor, New Haven, CT 06503, and a residence address of 551 Skokorat Road, Beacon Falls, CT 06403, to appear before the Superior Court in and for the Judicial District of New Haven, 235 Church Street, New Haven, CT 06510, Courtroom _____ on the _____ day of _____, 2024 at _____ o'clock AM/PM, then and there to answer unto the foregoing Presentment of Attorney for Misconduct, by serving the Respondent, Erica Todd-Trotta, a true and attested copy of the Presentment of Attorney for Misconduct, Summons, and of the Order for Hearing and Notice, according to law, on or before the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Hereof fail not, but due service and return make.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Leanne M. Larson
Commissioner of the Superior Court

Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel
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