

**Vermont Supreme Court
Professional Responsibility Program**

**In re Richard Bowen, Esq.
PRB File Nos. 2019-083 & 2019-088**

Hearing Panel 10

ORDER

On May 7, 2020, the panel issued Decision 233. In it, the panel ordered the Respondent's license to practice law suspended for three (3) months. Respondent filed a motion to stay the execution of the order until May 15, 2020.

A hearing panel decision becomes final if no appeal is filed and served within 30 days and the Supreme Court does not order review on its own motion. *Administrative Order 9, Rule 11.D*. Until then, it is not a final decision. This makes sense, especially in cases in which a brief suspension could run before a respondent had 30 days to decide whether to appeal. If that were to happen, the appeal would be moot, and a respondent would serve a suspension without being able to challenge it.

Furthermore, the Rules of Civil Procedure govern disciplinary cases, *A.O. 9, Rule 16.B*, and the Rules of Appellate Procedure govern disciplinary proceedings on appeal. *A.O. 9, Rule 11.E*. Per Rule 62(a)(1) of the Rules of Civil Procedure, no judgment will be enforced until the expiration of 30 days after its entry or the time to appeal has run.

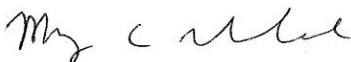
For these reasons, the panel concludes that Decision 233 is not yet a final order. As such, Respondent's motion to stay is DENIED. If no appeal is filed, and if the Supreme Court does not order review on its own motion, the panel ORDERS that the three (3) month suspension of Respondent's law license commence on June 8, 2020. Thereafter, Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Rule 23 of Administrative Order 9.

DATED May 13, 2020.

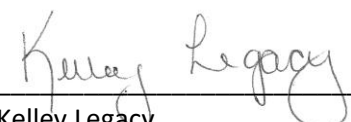
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Jonathan Cohen, Esq., Chair



Mary Welford, Esq.



Kelley Legacy