

SUPREME COURT OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Suspension of Members of the Oklahoma Bar Association

2019 OK 40 · No. SCBD-6799 · Decided June 10, 2019

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma ordered the suspension of named Oklahoma Bar Association members who failed to pay their 2019 membership dues and/or expense charges. The suspended attorneys were prohibited from practicing law in Oklahoma until reinstated.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Oklahoma
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Chief Justice Gurich; Vice Chief Justice Darby; Justice Kauger; Justice Winchester; Justice Edmondson; Justice Colbert; Justice Combs
JURISDICTION	Oklahoma
DECIDED	June 10, 2019
DOCKET	SCBD-6799
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association applied to the Oklahoma Supreme Court for an order suspending members who had failed to pay their 2019 membership dues and expense charges.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published in the Oklahoma Supreme Court's online decisions system but marked 'FOR PUBLICATION IN OBJ ONLY. NOT FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATION.'

TOPICS

administrative law

agency adjudication

PRACTICE AREAS

professional responsibility

attorney discipline

bar admission and membership

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Oklahoma Bar Association members who failed to pay their required 2019 dues and expense charges, after notice of the delinquency, should be suspended from membership and prohibited from practicing law.

HOLDINGS

1. Members who failed to pay their 2019 Oklahoma Bar Association dues and/or expense charges as required by the governing rules were properly suspended from Association membership and prohibited from practicing law in Oklahoma until reinstated.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“This Court, having considered the Application of the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association, finds that each of the Oklahoma Bar Association members named on Exhibit A, attached hereto, should be suspended from the Oklahoma Bar Association membership and shall not practice law in the State of Oklahoma until reinstated.”

“IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the attorneys named as set forth on Exhibit A, attached hereto, are hereby suspended from membership in the Association and prohibited from the practice of law in the State of Oklahoma for failure to pay membership dues for the year 2019 as required by the Rules Creating and Controlling the Oklahoma Bar Association.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Oklahoma Bar Association required its members to pay 2019 membership dues and expense charges. The Executive Director notified delinquent members by certified mail on April 15, 2019. The Board of Governors determined that the members listed in Exhibit A remained delinquent, and the Supreme Court ordered their suspension from bar membership and from practicing law until reinstated.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On May 20, 2019, the Board of Governors filed an application for suspension of delinquent members. The court found that certified-mail notices had been sent to delinquent members, that the listed members had not paid the required dues or expense charges, and ordered their suspension and prohibition from practicing law until reinstatement.

DISPOSITION

other