

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

In re Jon W. Norris

In re Jon W. Norris · No. 22-BS-774 · Decided October 20, 2022

SUMMARY

The District of Columbia Court of Appeals indefinitely suspended Jon W. Norris from practicing law based on disability under D.C. Bar Rule XI, § 13(c). The court appointed Barry Coburn as conservator to inventory and appropriately distribute Norris’s client files and ordered Norris to comply with suspended-attorney requirements.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	District of Columbia Court of Appeals
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Glickman, Associate Judge; McLeese, Associate Judge; Thompson, Senior Judge
JURISDICTION	District of Columbia
DECIDED	October 20, 2022
DOCKET	22-BS-774
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Disciplinary Counsel filed an unopposed petition on behalf of the Board on Professional Responsibility seeking respondent’s suspension based on disability under D.C. Bar Rule XI, § 13(c).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published per curiam disciplinary order; no reporter citation appears in the source.

TOPICS

- administrative law
- agency adjudication
- ada / disability

PRACTICE AREAS

- attorney discipline
- disability-based suspension
- legal ethics

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether respondent should be suspended indefinitely from the practice of law based on disability under D.C. Bar Rule XI, § 13(c).

2. Whether a conservator should be appointed to protect respondent's clients and manage the disposition of respondent's client files.

HOLDINGS

1. The petition for disability-based suspension was granted, and Jon W. Norris was indefinitely suspended from the practice of law in the District of Columbia, effective immediately; pending matters were held in abeyance.
2. Barry Coburn was appointed conservator to inventory respondent's files, make appropriate disposition of those files, and take other appropriate action to ensure continuity of representation for respondent's clients.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Jon W. Norris was a member of the District of Columbia Bar who was the subject of a disability-based suspension petition. The petition was unopposed by respondent and Disciplinary Counsel agreed to the requested relief. The court found that no partner, associate, or other responsible attorney was capable of conducting respondent's affairs after suspension, requiring appointment of a conservator to inventory and distribute client files and ensure continuity of client representation.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The District of Columbia Court of Appeals considered Disciplinary Counsel's unopposed petition and the Board's motion to file under seal. The court granted the motion to seal and granted the petition, indefinitely suspending respondent from practicing law and appointing a conservator to protect client interests.

DISPOSITION

other