

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

Disciplinary Counsel v. Dickinson

2016-Ohio-5343 (Ohio 2016) · No. 2016-0973 · Decided August 12, 2016

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Ohio imposed reciprocal discipline on Steven Lee Dickinson based on a certified order from the Supreme Court of California. The court suspended Dickinson from practicing law in Ohio for two years, with 22 months stayed, subject to reinstatement and compliance conditions.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Ohio
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Maureen O'Connor, C.J.; Pfeifer, J.; O'Donnell, J.; Lanzinger, J.; Kennedy, J.; French, J.; O'Neill, J.
JURISDICTION	Ohio
DECIDED	August 12, 2016
DOCKET	2016-0973
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Reciprocal attorney-discipline proceeding initiated after Disciplinary Counsel filed a certified copy of a California Supreme Court disciplinary order.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published Ohio Supreme Court disciplinary order; reciprocal-discipline decision.
PARTIES	Disciplinary Counsel v. Steven Lee Dickinson

TOPICS

appellate procedure

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

legal ethics

attorney discipline

professional responsibility

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Ohio should impose identical or comparable discipline under its reciprocal-discipline rule after receiving a certified copy of a California attorney-discipline order.

HOLDINGS

1. Under Gov.Bar R. V(20)(B), the Supreme Court of Ohio imposed reciprocal discipline consisting of a two-year suspension from the practice of law, with 22 months stayed, and conditioned reinstatement in Ohio on Dickinson's reinstatement in California and compliance with Ohio's reinstatement requirements.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Supreme Court of California entered a disciplinary order against Steven Lee Dickinson on April 28, 2016. That order imposed a two-year suspension from the practice of law, stayed the suspension, and placed Dickinson on two years of probation subject to a 60-day suspension. After receiving a certified copy of the California order, the Supreme Court of Ohio initiated reciprocal-discipline proceedings and received no objections from Dickinson.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Supreme Court of California suspended Dickinson from practicing law for two years, stayed all but the first 60 days, and placed him on two years of probation. Disciplinary Counsel filed the certified California order in the Supreme Court of Ohio under the reciprocal-discipline provisions of Gov.Bar R. V(20). The Ohio Supreme Court ordered Dickinson to show cause why identical or comparable discipline should not be imposed; no objections were filed, and the court imposed reciprocal discipline.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- In re Steven Lee Dickinson on Discipline, No. S231746 (Cal. Apr. 28, 2016)