

SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Bar v. Catron

918 So. 2d 1267 (Miss. 2005) · Decided August 10, 2005

SUMMARY

The Mississippi Supreme Court suspended Stephen B. Catron from practicing law in Mississippi and placed him on disability inactive status. The order was based on his temporary Kentucky suspension, his disability affecting his ability to practice, and the Mississippi Bar's proceedings under Mississippi Rules of Discipline 13 and 18.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Mississippi
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Chuck Easley; Diaz; Randolph
JURISDICTION	Mississippi
DECIDED	August 10, 2005
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Mississippi Bar filed a formal disciplinary complaint under Rule 13 of the Mississippi Rules of Discipline based on Catron's temporary suspension in Kentucky and sought his suspension in Mississippi and transfer to disability inactive status.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published en banc disciplinary order

TOPICS

ada / disability remedies

PRACTICE AREAS

legal ethics and professional responsibility attorney discipline disability status

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Catron should be suspended from practicing law in Mississippi based on his temporary suspension by the Supreme Court of Kentucky.
2. Whether Catron should be transferred to disability inactive status under Rule 18 of the Mississippi Rules of Discipline based on his medical incapacity.

HOLDINGS

1. Catron should be suspended from the practice of law in Mississippi until reinstatement of his privileges by order of the Mississippi Supreme Court.
2. Catron should be placed on disability inactive status and prohibited from practicing law in Mississippi until reinstatement by order of the Mississippi Supreme Court.
3. Catron must seek reinstatement under Rules 12 and 25 of the Mississippi Rules of Discipline if he seeks to return to practice in Mississippi.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Catron is suspended from the practice of law in the State of Mississippi, and is placed on disability inactive status, and is not permitted to practice law in the State of Mississippi until reinstatement of privileges by order of this Court.” (1268-69)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Stephen B. Catron was subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Mississippi Supreme Court while on inactive status in Mississippi. Kentucky temporarily suspended him based on probable cause that he had misappropriated or improperly handled funds, and Tennessee later transferred him to disability inactive status. A physician reported that Catron was permanently disabled from practicing law because of continuing cardiac problems and worsening coronary atherosclerosis. The Mississippi Bar commenced proceedings, and Catron did not respond to the complaint.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Catron had been temporarily suspended by the Supreme Court of Kentucky and transferred to disability inactive status in Tennessee. The Mississippi Bar initiated reciprocal disciplinary proceedings, but Catron did not respond. The Mississippi Supreme Court, sitting en banc, granted the Bar's requested sanctions and ordered Catron suspended and placed on disability inactive status until reinstatement by court order.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Inquiry Comm’n v. Stephen Catron, 141 S.W.3d 13 (Ky. July 12, 2004)
- Stephen B. Catron, BPR # 013510, BRP Docket No. 2004P-1479-0-LC (21) (Tenn. 2005)