



UNITED STATES TAX COURT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20217

May 29, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

The Chief Judge of the United States Tax Court announced today that the following practitioners have been suspended or reinstated by the United States Tax Court for reasons explained in an order issued in the case of each practitioner.

Copies of the orders are attached.

1. Charles Joseph Diorio
2. Stephen Edward Sokolic

Attachments

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

WASHINGTON, DC 20217

In re: Charles Joseph Diorio

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

By order of the Supreme Court Pennsylvania, Per Curiam, entered November 20, 2014, Mr. Diorio was suspended, on consent, from the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a period of five years. Additionally, Mr. Diorio failed to inform the Chair of this Court's Committee on Admissions, Ethics, and Discipline of the entry of the November 20, 2014, order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania within 30 days, as required by Rule 202(b), Tax Court Rules of Practice and Procedure.

The Court issued an Order to Show Cause on January 21, 2015, affording Mr. Diorio the opportunity to show cause, if any, why he should not be suspended or disbarred from practice before this Court, or otherwise disciplined. The Order to Show Cause instructed Mr. Diorio to (1) submit a written response to the order on or before March 2, 2015, and (2) notify the Court in writing on or before March 2, 2015, of his intention to appear, in person or by counsel, at a hearing concerning his proposed discipline scheduled before the United States Tax Court, 400 Second Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20217, on March 31, 2015.

The Order to Show Cause was mailed to Mr. Diorio by both certified and regular mail. The copy of the Order to Show Cause mailed by certified mail was returned to the Court by the United States Postal Service, the envelope marked "Return to Sender – Unclaimed – Unable to Forward." The copy of the Order to Show Cause mailed by regular mail has not been returned to the Court by the United States Postal Service. The Court has received no response from Mr. Diorio to the Order to Show Cause, issued January 21, 2015, nor has the Court received by March 2, 2015, notice of Mr. Diorio's intention to appear at the scheduled hearing.

Upon due consideration and for cause, it is hereby

ORDERED that the Court's Order to Show Cause, issued January 21, 2015, is hereby made absolute in that, under the provisions of Rule 202, Tax Court Rules of Practice and Procedure, Mr. Diorio is forthwith suspended from practice before

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the United States Tax Court, until further order of the Court. See Rule 202(f), Tax Court Rules of Practice and Procedure, for reinstatement requirements and procedures. It is further

ORDERED that Mr. Diorio's practitioner access to case files maintained by the Court in electronic form, if any such access was given to him, is hereby revoked. It is further

ORDERED that, until reinstated, Mr. Diorio is prohibited from holding himself out as a member of the Bar of the United States Tax Court. It is further

ORDERED that the Court will file orders to withdraw Mr. Diorio as counsel in all pending cases in which he appears as counsel of record. It is further

ORDERED that Mr. Diorio shall, within 20 days of service of this order upon him, surrender to this Court his certificate of admission to practice before this Court.

By the Court:

(Signed) Michael B. Thornton

Michael B. Thornton
Chief Judge

Dated: Washington, D.C.
May 29, 2015

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

WASHINGTON, DC 20217

In re: Stephen Edward Sokolic

ORDER OF REINSTATEMENT

On April 13, 2015, the Court received Mr. Sokolic's petition for reinstatement to practice before the Court to which there was attached, among other things: (1) a Report and Recommendations of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, dated May 23, 2003; (2) an order entered by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, per curiam, reinstating Mr. Sokolic to the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; (3) a Certificate of Good Standing from the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, dated April 6, 2015; and (5) a Certificate of Standing from the State Bar of California, dated April 1, 2015.

The background of Mr. Sokolic's suspension from practice before this Court is the following. On June 11, 1999, the Court issued an Order to Show Cause to Mr. Sokolic, affording him the opportunity to show cause, if any, why he should not be suspended or disbarred from practice before this Court, or otherwise disciplined. A hearing for Mr. Sokolic's disciplinary matter was scheduled for September 23, 1999. The Order to Show Cause was predicated on (1) the May 4, 1999, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Order temporarily suspending Mr. Sokolic from the practice of law in that State and (2) the March 8, 1999, United States District Court for the District of New Jersey Order that convicted him of violating 18 U.S.C. Section 1027 and Section 2.

Mr. Sokolic responded to the Order to Show Cause by letter from his counsel, received on July 1, 1999. Neither Mr. Sokolic nor his attorney notified the Court of Mr. Sokolic's intention to appear for hearing as provided in the Order to Show Cause. Thus, Mr. Sokolic waived his right to so appear.

After due consideration of Mr. Sokolic's response, the Court issued an Order of Suspension to him on November 19, 1999. In that order, the Court made the Order to Show Cause of June 11, 1999, absolute in that, under the provisions of Rule 202, Tax Court Rules of Practice and Procedure, Mr. Sokolic was suspended from practice before this Court until further order of the Court.

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As outlined in the Report and Recommendations of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, dated May 23, 2003, Mr. Sokolic satisfied the terms of the sentence imposed by the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, and his probationary sentence of five years was served without incident and was terminated early. Mr. Sokolic had made the demonstration required for reinstatement before this Court by Rule 202(f)(2)(B) of the Tax Court Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Upon due consideration, it is hereby

ORDERED that Mr. Sokolic's petition for reinstatement is granted and Stephen Edward Sokolic is hereby reinstated to practice before the United States Tax Court.

By the Court:

(Signed) Michael B. Thornton

Michael B. Thornton
Chief Judge

Dated: Washington, D.C.
May 29, 2015