

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Supreme Court Case No.

Complainant,

The Florida Bar File Nos.

v.

SCOTT N. FADEN,

Respondent.

2020-10,085(20C);

2020-10,357(20C);

2020-10,470(20C);

2020-10,543(20C);

2022-10,156(20C);

2024-10,485(20C);

2024-10,381(20C);

2024-10,639(20C);

2025-10,247(20A);

2025-10,405(20A);

2025-10,440(20A);

2025-10,441(20A);

2025-10,529(20A);

2025-10,754(20A);

2026-10,117(20A);

2026,10,119(20A);

2026-10,120(20A)

CONDITIONAL GUILTY PLEA FOR CONSENT JUDGMENT

The undersigned respondent, Scott N. Faden, files this Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment under R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.9.

1. Respondent is, and at all times relevant to this matter was, a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida and the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

2. Respondent is acting freely and voluntarily in this matter and tenders this plea without fear or threat of coercion. Respondent is represented in this matter.

3. As to Florida Bar File Nos. 2024-10,639(20C), 2024-10,381(20C), 2024-10,485(20C), 2022-10,156(20C), 2020-10,543(20C), 2020-10,470(20C), 2020-10,357(20C), and 2020-10,085(20C), there have been findings of probable cause by a Grievance Committee. As to Florida Bar File Nos. 2025-10,247(20A), 2025-10,405(20A), 2025-10,440(20A), 2025-10,441(20A), 2025-10,529(20A), 2025-10,754(20A), 2026-10,117(20A), 2026-10,119(20A), and 2026-10,120(20A), respondent waives the right to a probable cause hearing before a grievance committee and stipulates to a finding of probable cause in these matters.

4. The disciplinary measures to be imposed on respondent are:

a. Suspension from the practice of law for three years, effective 30 days from the date of the Supreme Court of Florida's order approving the consent judgment so that respondent can close out respondent's practice and protect the interests of existing clients.

i. On entry of the Court's order, respondent must immediately:

1. accept no new clients from the date of the order;
2. initiate no litigation on behalf of clients from the date of the order;
3. provide a copy of the suspension order to all courts, tribunals, or adjudicative agencies before which respondent is counsel of record; all state, federal, or administrative bars of which respondent is a

member; all clients; all co-counsel; and all opposing counsel, as required by Rule 3-5.1(h);

4. provide a copy of the suspension order to all banks and financial institutions where respondent maintains any account holding funds of clients or third parties in respondent's possession in connection with representation; and
 5. comply with, and provide all documents and testimony responsive to, a subpoena from the bar for trust account records and any related documents necessary for the bar to conduct a trust account audit.
- ii. Within 30 days from the date of the Court's order, respondent must:
1. cease all practice of law in Florida;
 2. cease holding respondent out as a Florida Bar member or lawyer and eliminate all indicia of respondent's status as a Florida Bar member or lawyer on websites, social media, telephone listings, stationery, checks, business cards, office signs, email address, and any other indicia of respondent's status as a Florida Bar member or lawyer;
 3. withdraw from representation of all clients;
 4. wind down all pending matters;
 5. cease withdrawing or disbursing any money from any trust account or other financial institution account holding funds of clients or third parties in respondent's possession in connection with legal representation;

6. not transfer any ownership of any real or personal property purchased in whole or in part with funds of clients or third parties in connection with legal representation;
 7. provide the bar's headquarters office in Tallahassee with an affidavit listing all of the following that respondent notified of the suspension order: all courts, tribunals, or adjudicative agencies of which respondent is a member; all state, federal, or administrative bars of which respondent is a member; all clients; all co-counsel; all opposing counsel; and each bank or financial institution in which respondent maintains any account holding funds of clients or third parties in respondent's possession in connection with representation; and
 8. provide the bar's headquarters office in Tallahassee with a listing of the receipt and location of any fees or other sums received in connection with the practice of law received by respondent after issuance of the suspension order.
- b. Respondent must fully comply with Rule Regulating The Florida Bar 3-5.1(h).
 - c. Respondent also must fully comply with Rule Regulating The Florida Bar 3-6.1, if applicable.
 - d. Prior to petitioning for reinstatement, respondent must satisfy restitution to the following clients in the amounts specified below. Respondent must submit verifiable proof of payment and its receipt to The Florida Bar at its headquarters address in Tallahassee at or prior to the time reinstatement is sought. Verifiable proof of payment consists of a copy of the front and back of the negotiated check or a copy of the check and certified return receipt. If respondent cannot locate any client

identified below after a diligent search, respondent must execute and submit an affidavit of diligent search to The Florida Bar at its headquarters address in Tallahassee and must pay the full amount of the restitution to The Florida Bar's Clients' Security Fund. Should the Client Security Fund have paid any claims as a result of allegations pertaining to respondent, respondent shall reimburse the Client Security Fund prior to seeking reinstatement.

TFB File No. 2026-10,120	(Debra Holz)	\$10,000.00
TFB File No. 2026-10,119	(Michelle Finnegan)	\$10,000.00
TFB File No. 2026-10,117	(Nicole Ross)	\$ 3,772.10
TFB File No. 2025-10,754	(Jamie Burns)	\$ 5,545.00
TFB File No. 2025-10,529	(Ebenezer Akinola)	\$ 3,000.00
TFB File No. 2025-10,405	(Leslie Morris)	\$ 600.00
TFB File No. 2020-10,085	(Timothy Hendrix)	\$ 2,345.00
TFB File No. 2020-10,470	(Jamie Adame)	\$ 500.00
TFB File No. 2024-10,381	(Jared Grossenbaugh)	\$ 2,866.00
TFB File No. 2024-10,485	(Charity Chatman)	\$ 3,500.00

5. As to The Florida Bar File Nos. 2026-10,120(20A), 2026-10,119(20A), 2026-10,117(20A), 2025-10,754(20A), 2025-10,529(20A), 2025-10,405(20A), and 2025-10,247(20A), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent accepted a fee to perform agreed upon legal services in the files referenced above and in some, respondent also received cost advances. Respondent failed to perform all, or some significant portion of, the services he was paid to perform. Respondent failed to return the unused portion of the fee or the unused costs.
- b. Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with these clients and failed to keep them informed as to the status and/or progress of their legal matters.
- c. Respondent failed to respond to the bar's inquiries regarding the above referenced grievances.
- d. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 4-1.3 (Diligence), 4-1.4 (Communication), 4-1.5(a) (Illegal, Prohibited, or Clearly Excessive Fees), and 4-8.4(g) (A lawyer shall not fail to respond, in writing, to any official inquiry by bar counsel...).

6. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2025-10,441(20A), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. In the course of representing a client, respondent and the client were sanctioned in the amount of \$2,860.00 to be divided equally between them. Respondent satisfied the sanction award.
- b. Respondent failed to respond to the bar's inquiries regarding the above referenced grievances.
- c. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 4-8.4(g) (A lawyer shall not fail to respond, in writing, to any official inquiry by bar counsel...).

7. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2025-10,440(20A), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent was retained to represent a client in a will contest matter and failed to advise her properly or competently pursue her legal matter.
- b. Respondent was not diligent and did not communicate effectively or honestly with the client with regard to the status of the representation.
- c. Respondent failed to respond to the bar's inquiries regarding the above referenced grievances.
- d. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 4-1.1 (Competence), 4-1.3 (Diligence), 4-1.4 (Communication), 4-8.4(c) (A lawyer shall not engage in conduct involving fraud, dishonesty, deceit, or misrepresentation...), and 4-8.4(g) (A lawyer shall not fail to respond, in writing, to any official inquiry by bar counsel...).

8. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2020-10,085(11C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent accepted a fee and costs to initiate a civil action on behalf of the client but did not file the civil complaint for six months and failed to accomplish service on the defendant or take any other action in furtherance of the client's claims.
- b. Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with the client regarding the status of the representation.

- c. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct), 4-1.3 (Diligence), and 4-1.4(a) (Communication).

9. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2020-10,357(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. In the course of representing a client, respondent made discourteous comments to the opposing pro se party.
- b. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct) and 4-8.4(d) (A lawyer shall not engage in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice...).

10. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2020-10,470(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent was retained to represent a client in a dissolution proceeding and received \$500.00 for filing fees which he failed to hold in trust.
- b. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct) and 5-1.1(a) (Trust Accounts).

11. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2020-10,543(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent was retained to pursue an appeal on behalf of a client.
- b. Respondent filed a notice of appearance and brief but failed to arrange for the transmission of the record on appeal despite being directed by the court to do so, resulting in the dismissal of the appeal. Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with the client.
- c. Respondent maintains that the client's child turned 18 during the appellate proceedings and thus, the issues raised in the appeal became moot. Respondent maintains that the client's objectives were thus achieved, and no purpose was accomplished by continuing to pursue the appeal.
- d. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct), 4-1.2(a) (Objectives and Scope of Representation), 4-1.3 (Diligence), and 4-1.4(a) (Communication).

12. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2022-10,156 (20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent was retained to handle a probate matter on behalf of a client. After filing Petition for Administration, respondent did not proceed diligently on behalf of the client, resulting in the court's issuance of several rules to show cause.
- b. Respondent failed to appear at a hearing on the last rule to show cause which resulted in the case's dismissal.
- c. Respondent did not reasonably communicate with the client during the course of the representation.

- d. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 4-1.3 (Diligence) and 4-1.4(a)(b) (Communication).

13. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2024-10,381(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent accepted a fee and costs to initiate a civil claim on behalf of a client, but failed to file a lawsuit or otherwise pursue the client's claims. Respondent also failed to reasonably communicate with the client.
- b. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct), 4-1.2(a) (Objectives and Scope of Representation), 4-1.3 (Diligence), 4-1.4 (communication), 4-8.4(a) (A lawyer shall not violated or attempt to violated the Rules of Professional Conduct), and 4-8.4(d) (A lawyer shall not engage in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice).

14. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2024-10,485(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent accepted a fee and costs in December 2023 to pursue the domestication of a foreign judgment on behalf of a client. The client believed the matter would be filed before the end of the year. Respondent maintains that he told the client he would file it after the new year.
- b. Respondent did not file the complaint before the end of the year or thereafter, prompting the client to request a refund which she did not receive.

- c. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct), 4-1.2(a) (Objectives and Scope of Representation), 4-1.3 (Diligence), 4-1.4(a)(b) (Communication), 4-1.5 (Fees and Costs for Legal Services), 4-1.16 (Declining or Terminating Representation), 4-8.4(a) (A lawyer shall not violate or attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct), and 4-8.4(d) (A lawyer shall not engage in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice).

15. As to The Florida Bar File No. 2024-10,639(20C), the following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

- a. Respondent was retained to represent a client in a child support modification matter. The client was later served with a Dept. of Revenue action relative to the child support and discussed same with respondent. Despite the fact that there was a retainer agreement indicating that respondent was hired for the modification matter, there was not a clear meeting of the minds as to what respondent's responsibilities would be, if any, with respect to the Dept. of Revenue action. Regardless, respondent did appear at the Dept. of Revenue hearing at which time he conceded to the Dept's position which was contrary to the client's objectives. The client and respondent further disagree as to whether a financial affidavit was provided.
- b. The client further alleges that respondent failed to maintain reasonable communications or proceed diligently on the client's behalf. Thereafter, respondent provided no further services and the client retained substitute counsel.
- c. By reason of the foregoing, respondent has violated the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: 3-4.3 (Misconduct and Minor Misconduct), 4-1.2(a) (Objectives and Scope of Representation), 4-1.3 (Diligence), 4-1.4(a)(b) (Communication), 4-8.4(a) (A lawyer shall not violate or attempt

to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct), and 4-8.4(d) (A lawyer shall not engage in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice).

16. In mitigation, the following Florida Standards for Imposing

Lawyer Sanctions apply:

3.3(b)(1) Absence of a prior disciplinary record: Respondent has been a member of The Florida Bar since 2006 with an unblemished discipline history.

3.3(b)(3) Personal or emotional problems: Respondent has been suffering from serious health issues, the stress of which has resulted in depression. Additionally, respondent's assistant left his employ and he has been unable to find adequate and sufficient replacement staff which has contributed to his inability to effectively manage his practice, further contributing to his stress and depression.

3.3(b)(8) Physical or mental disability or impairment: Respondent has been suffering from severe health issues, including drastic unexpected weight loss, neuropathy, and sickness. Ongoing efforts to diagnose the cause of his illness initially led to his doctors' belief that he had cancer. Ultimately, respondent was diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. Respondent continues to struggle with neuropathy in his legs and feet, as well as other effects stemming from his Type 2 Diabetes diagnosis.

17. In aggravation, the following Florida Standards for Imposing

Lawyer Sanctions apply:

- 3.2(b)(2) Dishonest or selfish motive;
- 3.2(b)(3) A pattern of misconduct;
- 3.2(b)(4) Multiple offenses;
- 3.2(b)(8) Vulnerability of the victim; and
- 3.2(b)(9) Substantial experience in the practice of law.

18. The Florida Bar has approved this proposed plea as required by R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.9.

19. If this plea is not finally approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar and the Supreme Court of Florida, then it has no effect and may not be used by the parties in any way.

20. If this plea is approved, respondent agrees to pay all reasonable costs associated with this case under Rule 3-7.6(q) in the amount of \$1,803.32. These costs are due within 30 days of the court order. Respondent agrees that if the costs are not paid within 30 days of this court's order becoming final, respondent will pay interest on any unpaid costs at the statutory rate. Respondent further agrees these disciplinary costs are not dischargeable in any future proceedings, including, but not limited to, a petition for bankruptcy. Respondent will be delinquent and ineligible to practice law if respondent does not satisfy the cost judgment within 30 days of this order, unless The Florida Bar Board of Governors defers payment under R. Regulating Fla. Bar 1-3.6.

21. Respondent acknowledges the obligation to pay the costs of this proceeding and that payment is evidence of strict compliance with the conditions of any disciplinary order or agreement and is evidence of good faith and fiscal responsibility. Respondent further acknowledges that

restitution as set forth in the preceding paragraphs is a condition of his seeking reinstatement.

22. This Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment fully complies with all requirements of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2025.



Scott N. Faden
1342 Colonial Blvd Ste C17
Fort Myers, FL 33907-1003
(239) 243-0677
Florida Bar No. 20069
scottfaden@gmail.com

Dated this 19th day of November , 2025.

Madison A. Tanner

Michael Joseph Corso, Counsel for
Respondent
Madison Allen Tanner, Co-Counsel for
Respondent
PO Box 280
Fort Myers, FL 33902-0280
(239) 344-1170
Florida Bar No. 228729
michael.corso@henlaw.com
Madison.tanner@henlaw.com

Dated this 7th day of January, 2026.



Jennifer Robyn Dillon, Bar Counsel
Tampa Branch Office
The Florida Bar

400 North Tampa Street, Suite 2000
Tampa FL, 33602
(813) 875-9821
Florida Bar No.: 72643
jdillon@floridabar.org

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Jennifer Robyn Dillon, Bar Counsel, The Florida Bar, jdillon@floridabar.org

Michael Joseph Corso, Counsel for Respondent,
Michael.corso@henlaw.com,

Madison Allen Tanner, Co-Counsel for Respondent,
Madison.tanner@henlaw.com

Patricia Ann Toro Savitz, Staff Counsel, psavitz@floridabar.org

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Complainant,

v.

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2025-10,441(20A);

2025-10,529(20A);

2025-10,754(20A);

2026-10,117(20A);

2026,10,119(20A);

2026-10,120(20A)

STIPULATION TO ENTRY OF AGREED ORDER

The Florida Bar and Scott N. Faden stipulate to the entry of the attached order in this case, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court of Florida and state:

Respondent is and, at all times relevant to this matter was, a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida.

Respondent is simultaneously tendering a conditional guilty plea under an agreement with The Florida Bar for a consent judgment.

If the conditional guilty plea is approved, respondent agrees to the terms and conditions in the agreed consent judgment and attached order.

It is therefore stipulated by The Florida Bar and respondent that the attached order should be entered on approval of the Supreme Court of Florida.

Dated this _18th_____ day of __December_____, 2025.



Scott N. Faden
1342 Colonial Blvd Ste C17
Fort Myers, FL 33907-1003
(239) 243-0677
Florida Bar No. 20069
scottfaden@gmail.co

Approved by:

/s/ Madison Allen Tanner
Michael Joseph Corso, Counsel for
Respondent
Madison Allen Tanner, Co-Counsel for
Respondent
PO Box 280
Fort Myers, FL 33902-0280
(239) 344-1170
Florida Bar No. 228729
michael.corso@henlaw.com
Madison.tanner@henlaw.com

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Dillon', with a stylized, cursive flourish.

Jennifer Robyn Dillon, Bar Counsel
Tampa Branch Office
The Florida Bar
400 North Tampa Street, Suite 2000
Tampa FL, 33602
(813) 875-9821
Florida Bar No.: 72643
jdillon@floridabar.org