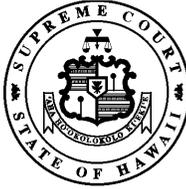


Office of Disciplinary Counsel
201 Merchant Street, Suite 1600
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone (808) 521-4591
www.dbhawaii.org



Chief Disciplinary Counsel
Bradley R. Tamm
Deputy Chief Disciplinary Counsel
Rebecca M. Salwin
Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Ryan S. Little
Chloe M. R. Fasi
Investigators
Andrea R. Sink
Joanna A. Sayavong
Josiah K. Sewell
Lisa K. Lemon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: Monday, July 15, 2019

CONTACT: Bradley R. Tamm
Direct: (808) 469-4026

PRESS RELEASE

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I - On July 15, 2019, the Hawai'i Supreme Court granted the request of attorney William P. Ornellas to resign from the practice of law in lieu of discipline. At the time Mr. Ornellas offered to resign, he was facing serious disciplinary charges, including violations of Rules 1.8(a) [unfair business transaction with a client], 1.8(b) [use of client information to disadvantage of client], 8.3(d) [prohibited attempt to have client withdraw disciplinary complaint], and 8.4(c) [conduct involving dishonesty] of the Hawai'i Rules of Professional Conduct.

In Hawai'i, a resignation in lieu of discipline requires an acknowledgement that the material facts of the disciplinary proceeding are true, and that if the proceeding were prosecuted, the attorney would not be able to successfully defend the case. RSCH Rule 2.14(a)(1)-(4). Further, a "[r]esignation in lieu of discipline is a disbarment for all purposes under these rules, including reinstatement." RSCH Rule 2.14(d).

Mr. Ornellas, age 75, was admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 1980, and is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson School of Law. If there are any questions, please contact me at (808) 469-4026.

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