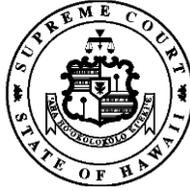


Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
201 Merchant Street, Suite 1600  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Telephone (808) 521-4591  
www.dbhawaii.org



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, October 21, 2019**

**CONTACT: Bradley R. Tamm**

**Direct: (808) 469-4026**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**HONOLULU, HAWAI'I** - On October 17, 2019, the Hawai'i Supreme Court ordered the **SUSPENSION** of attorney Maile Lani Esteban-Trinidad ("Esteban"), effective 30 days following entry of the order, and continuing until reinstated by the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

On July 5, 2019, the Nevada Supreme Court suspended Esteban for a period of six (6) months and one (1) day based on findings that she misappropriated client funds for office and personal expenses, and commingled personal funds with client funds, causing those clients actual injury, in violation of her duty to safeguard client property. In aggravation, the Nevada court found a pattern of misconduct, multiple offenses, and substantial experience in the practice of law. In mitigation, the Nevada court found Esteban had made full and free disclosure, had a good reputation and character, had expressed remorse, had a clean disciplinary record, and had faced personal problems during the relevant time. The Nevada court concluded that the violations while serious, following consideration of the mitigating factors, particularly the latter two, were sufficient to reduce the appropriate discipline to a period of suspension in Nevada of six months and one day, together with court-ordered restitution to clients harmed. In Nevada, an attorney suspended for more than six months must petition to be reinstated, and prove both rehabilitation and fitness to practice law by clear and convincing evidence.

Following the Nevada suspension, on motion of the Hawai'i Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the Hawai'i Supreme Court ordered that the equivalent discipline to be imposed in Hawai'i is suspension from the practice of law for 181 days, and payment of the costs of the proceeding. The Hawai'i court also ordered that Esteban shall not resume the practice of law in Hawaii until re-

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admitted by order of the Hawai'i Supreme Court which is to be conditioned upon her proof of readmission to, and good standing with, the Nevada State Bar.

Upon entry of the October 17, 2019 suspension order, Esteban shall not accept any new retainer or engage as attorney for another in any new case or legal matter of any nature. However, between October 17, 2019 and November 18, 2019 she may wind up and complete, on behalf of any client, all matters that were pending on October 17, 2019. During that interim time she is required to notify all of her clients, and any attorneys for any adverse party in any pending litigation, of her suspension and consequent inability to act as an attorney, and need for clients to find substitute counsel. By November 18, 2019, Esteban shall surrender to all clients all papers and property to which the clients are entitled and any advance payments of fees that have not been earned.

Ms. Esteban, age 47, was admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 2015, and is a graduate of American University, Washington College of Law.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (808) 469-4026.

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