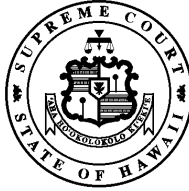


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: Friday, June 24, 2022

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PRESS RELEASE

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I - On June 24, 2022, the Hawai'i Supreme Court ordered Honolulu attorney Nathan W. S. Choi, disbarred from the practice of law in the State of Hawai'i, effective July 25, 2022.

Mr. Choi's disbarment was predicated upon his earlier resignation in lieu of discipline from the Washington State Bar, effective November 17, 2021. Under Washington law, a resignation in lieu of discipline is permanent, and is treated as a disbarment in other jurisdictions. In Mr. Choi's case, his agreement with the Washington State Bar also included his agreement to seek to resign in all other jurisdictions to which he is admitted, including Hawai'i. Under Hawai'i law, the Hawai'i Supreme Court will generally impose identical discipline, and Hawaii deems a resignation in lieu of discipline to be a "disbarment for all purposes."

Here, Mr. Choi contested the application for imposition of reciprocal discipline, but the Hawai'i Supreme Court, after reviewing the record from the Washington disciplinary proceeding, noted that his "current efforts to collaterally attack the effect of his Washington State resignation rather than to seek to resign his Hawai'i license, [are] efforts which are contrary to the steps he agreed to undertake in the November 17, 2021 [Washington] Notice of Resignation in Lieu of Discipline." The court then concluded "Choi is reciprocally disbarred in [Hawai'i], effective 30 days after the entry date of this [June 24, 2022] order."

While Mr. Choi's resignation is not effective until July 25, 2022, starting June 24, 2022 he shall not accept any new retainer or engage as attorney for another in any new case or legal matter of any nature. Before July 25, 2022, he may wind up all matters that

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were pending on June 24, 2022. During that time, he is required to promptly notify all his clients, and any attorneys for any party, or self-represented parties, in any pending litigation or proceedings, of his inability to act as an attorney. Further, by July 25, 2022, Choi shall surrender to all clients all papers and property to which they are entitled and return any advance payments of fees that have not been earned.

Nathan Choi was admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 1999, and is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson, School of Law.

Case reference: *ODC v. Nathan W.S. Choi*, SCAD-22-0000319.

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