

*People v. Hutchinson*, No. 02PDJ050. 7.09.02. Attorney Regulation. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge approved the parties' Conditional Admission of Misconduct and suspended Respondent Nancy J. Hutchinson, attorney registration number 15061, from the practice of law for a period of 180 days. In one matter, respondent accepted a retainer and was employed by the client to obtain maintenance due the client from a divorce proceeding filed in another jurisdiction. For two years thereafter, the client repeatedly attempted to contact respondent for information on the status of her legal matter. On several occasions, respondent misrepresented the status of the case to the client, assuring the client she was taking action on her behalf when in fact she failed to take appropriate action on the matter. Respondent engaged in dishonesty in violation of Colo. RPC 8.4(c), she failed to adequately communicate with her client in violation of Colo. RPC 1.4(a), she neglected the client's legal matter over a significant amount of time in violation of Colo. RPC 1.3, she charged an unreasonable fee in violation of Colo. RPC 1.5(a), and she failed to return the unearned portion of the retainer in violation of Colo. RPC 1.15(b) and Colo. RPC 1.16(d). In another matter, respondent represented a client in a divorce proceeding and failed to respond to a motion in violation of Colo. RPC 1.3 resulting in an unfavorable outcome for the client. Respondent was ordered to pay restitution and the costs of the disciplinary proceeding.