

People v. H. Perry Ryon. 13PDJ089. November 26, 2013.

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge approved the parties' conditional admission of misconduct and suspended H. Perry Ryon (Attorney Registration Number 22554) for six months, with the requirement that he petition for reinstatement pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.29(c). The suspension took effect November 26, 2013.

Ryon was hired to represent a plaintiff in a slip-and-fall lawsuit in 2011. Although Ryon filed a complaint on the client's behalf, he neglected to serve the complaint. The court later directed Ryon to show cause why the case should not be dismissed for failure to prosecute. When Ryon failed to respond, the court dismissed the case in April 2012. Ryon did not inform his client of the dismissal. Although Ryon spoke to his client in November 2012, he did not inform the client at that time of the dismissal. Ryon then neglected to communicate with his client for nearly four additional months, despite the client's attempts to reach him. As a result of Ryon's misconduct, the statute of limitations expired on his client's claim.

In this matter, Ryon violated Colo. RPC 1.3 (a lawyer shall act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing a client); 1.4(a)(3)-(4) (a lawyer shall keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and shall promptly comply with reasonable requests for information); and 8.4(c) (a lawyer shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation).