



LOUISIANA ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY BOARD

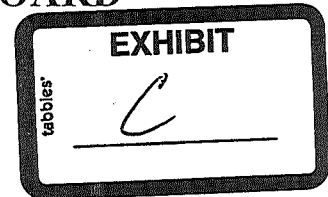
OFFICE OF THE DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

4000 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd.

Suite 607

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816

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June 13, 2017

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

9214 7969 0099 9790 1615 3668 88

Sedric E. Banks

1038 N. 9th St.

Monroe, LA 71201-5513

RE: RESPONDENT: Sedric E. Banks
 COMPLAINT: Honorable Terry A. Doughty
 FILE NO: 35818

Dear Mr. Banks:

The enclosed material contains allegations about your conduct which require the Office of Disciplinary Counsel to obtain a written response pursuant to Supreme Court Rule XIX, Section 4B(2). You are required to provide a substantive response, with documentation, to each allegation of misconduct within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of receipt of this letter so that we can make an appropriate disposition as soon as possible. At this time, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel has not taken any position regarding the validity of the allegations.

We call your attention to Rule 8.1 (b)(c) of the Rules of Professional Conduct, as well as Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XIX, Section 9C, which set forth your duty to respond to a request for information on a complaint filed with this office. Failure to supply the requested response within fifteen (15) days may necessitate the taking of your sworn statement pursuant to subpoena, at your cost. A failure to respond may also result in disciplinary action being taken both on the merits and for failure to cooperate.

This matter is confidential at this stage except for necessary disclosures in the course of our investigation.

Your prompt action will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Kalmbach
Deputy Disciplinary Counsel

SCK/kfl
Enclosure



OFFICE OF THE DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

RECEIVED

MAY 30 2017

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ETHICAL CONDUCT COMPLAINT

PART A: INFORMATION ABOUT YOU - PLEASE KEEP CURRENT

1. FULL NAME: Judge Terry A. Doughty
2. HOME ADDRESS: 708 Julia Street, P. O. Box 90
CITY: Rayville STATE LA ZIP 71269
TELEPHONE: area code (318) 728-4111
3. EMPLOYER: Judicial Branch, State of Louisiana
WORK ADDRESS: P. O. Box 90
CITY: Rayville STATE LA ZIP 71269
TELEPHONE: area code (318) 728-4111
4. NAME OF PERSON WHO CAN ALWAYS REACH YOU: Jan Doughty
ADDRESS & TELEPHONE: P. O. Box 90, Rayville, LA 71269
318-372-7414

PART B: INFORMATION ABOUT ATTORNEY

1. NAME OF ATTORNEY: Sedric E. Banks # 2730
2. ADDRESS: 1038 North Ninth Street
CITY: Monroe STATE LA ZIP 71201
TELEPHONE: area code (318) 388-1655
3. WHEN DID YOU HIRE THIS ATTORNEY? NA
4. WHAT DID YOU HIRE THIS ATTORNEY TO DO FOR YOU? NA
5. WHAT WAS YOUR FEE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ATTORNEY? NA

PART C: EXPLANATION OF YOUR COMPLAINT

State in detail why you think this attorney has done something improper or has failed to do something which this attorney should have done. Include the names and addresses of all persons who know something about your grievance. Attach copies of court papers, cancelled checks or receipts showing payments of attorney's fee, and other documents relevant to your grievance. Attach additional 8 1/2" x 11" sheets of paper if you need more space for your explanation.

Sedric E. Banks is an attorney that is representing the petitioners in the case of David Stowe, Sr., et al vs # 44,771A Donald Slade Jordan, et al, 5th District Court, Parish of Richland. I was the assigned judge in this case. Many of the defendants in this suit were from the state of Texas and the allegations alleged that the damages and fault occurred in the state of Texas. Several of the defendants, including Anadarko Petroleum Corp. and Ross Haeberle filed Exceptions Of Lack Of Personal Jurisdiction. After hearings on the case, on December 29, 2016, I rendered Written Reasons For Judgment in which I found that there was no personal jurisdiction over the defendants, Anadarko Petroleum Corp. and Ross Haeberle, (Exhibit A)

Several other Exceptions and Motions were filed by the defendants, and were set for hearing on February 13, 2017. In reviewing the Exceptions for purposes of the hearing, I became aware there was a potential conflict with regard to the defendant, David Stephens, which I needed to disclose. Therefore, on February 02, 2017, I made a disclosure of the fact that one of the defendants, David Stephens, and I had a prior business relationship during 2014, (Exhibit B). After the disclosure was made, Mr. Banks filed a Motion To Recuse. The Motion To Recuse was not based on simply the grounds disclosed. Mr. Banks falsely alleged that I conspired with the defendant, David Stephens, to conceal this relationship and that I had intentionally failed to disclose the ground for recusal. Mr. Banks made a number of other false allegations that are contained in the Motion To Recuse, (Exhibit C). The allegations made by Mr. Banks against me in the Motion To Recuse were false and recklessly made, without investigation. Also attached is (Exhibit D), copy of the petitioners' Opposition in which Banks is again accusing this Court of conspiring with the defendant, David Stephens.

After having reviewed this matter, I voluntarily recused myself in the case, based on the appearance of impropriety. Attached is my Voluntary Motion To Recuse, (Exhibit E).

Within a few days of Mr. Banks Motion To Recuse being filed, a front page article in The Franklin Sun and The Ouachita Citizen (owned by hannapub.com), appeared, which is attached, and which greatly details the false allegations against me, (Exhibit F). It is believed by this Court that Mr. Banks contacted the reporter and had this article written to force this Court to recuse itself due to its December 29, 2016 ruling.

Thereafter, a series of articles continued to be published. As of the present date, there have been a total of nine (9) articles in The Franklin Sun and/or The Ouachita Citizen, most of which appeared on the front page, all relating to this Judge, (Exhibits F, I, L-1, L-2, L-3, L-4, L-5, L-6 and L-7).

The articles speak for themselves but contain much misleading and false information in an attempt to embarrass this Court, and punish this Court for ruling against Mr. Banks. This Judge believes Mr. Banks is involved in the writing and/or publishing of these articles in The Franklin Sun and/or The Ouachita Citizen.

After my voluntary recusal in the Stowe v Jordan Richland Parish case, Mr. Banks then filed another Motion To Recuse me in another case that I had been assigned in Franklin Parish, Louisiana entitled "K.T. Farms, et al v #43,818A Citizens Progressive Bank. Attached are plaintiffs' Motion To Recuse along with a Memorandum In Support Of The Motion To Recuse, (Exhibits G and H).

Additional Page (2) - PART C: EXPLANATION OF YOUR COMPLAINT

In the second Motion To Recuse, Mr. Banks rehashed the prior allegations that he had stated in the Stowe v Jordan matter and further alleged that this Court was biased or prejudiced against him. Additionally, Mr. Banks argued in the second Motion To Recuse and Memorandum that this Court's ruling against him on the Exception Of Personal Jurisdiction in the Stowe v Jordan matter showed bias or prejudice.

Mr. Banks accused this Court of violations of Judicial Cannons and willful misconduct alleging that this Court intentionally concealed its relationship with David Stephens so that it could rule against Mr. Banks on the jurisdiction issue. It should be noted that no issues were decided by this Court involving David Stephens. David Stephens did not file his Motions and Exceptions until 13 months after the suit was filed.

The second Motion To Recuse was set for hearing and a hearing was had in Franklin Parish on May 3, 2017. After the hearing, in which this Court testified, Judge James M. Stephens found there were no grounds for recusal. A transcript of this hearing is available, if needed.

Thereafter, in another attempt to force this Court to recuse itself, Mr. Banks had published another article on May 17, 2017. See attached (Exhibit I). The May 17, 2017 article, which appeared on the front page of The Franklin Sun and The Ouachita Citizen speaks for itself. Additionally, on May 19, 2017, Mr. Banks filed a Motion For New Trial, (Exhibit J), with a Memorandum, (Exhibit K), again seeking to have this Judge recused, and asserting grounds for recusal which are not statutory grounds and making additional false allegations.

This method has been a consistent pattern of Mr. Banks in other cases. See the attached The Franklin Sun April 12, 2017 article entitled "Recusal Tactics Draw Criticism." (Exhibit L-1). Through the same newspapers (primarily The Ouachita Citizen), Mr. Banks has had a total of 74 separate articles written about his cases, many of which attempted to recuse judges in the Fourth District, (Ouachita and Morehouse Parishes). These newspapers are weekly newspapers and Mr. Banks' articles have appeared (usually on the front page), in 74 separate articles since October, 2014. These are weekly publications, which means Mr. Banks' articles have appeared in more than half of the papers published by hannahpub.com since October, 2014.

This Court believes that Mr. Sedric E. Banks has violated Rule 3.1, Rule 3.6, and Rule 8.2 of the Louisiana Rules Of Professional Conduct. Rule 3.1 - asserting false allegations against a judge that are frivolous with no basis of law or in fact. Rule 3.6 - by making extra judicial statements and giving information to the media that Mr. Banks knows or had reasonable basis to know, would be disseminated by means of public communication. Rule 8.2 - by making the above statements that Mr. Banks knew were false and/or made with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the integrity of a judge.

LOUISIANA ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY BOARD

LIST ALL DOCUMENTS ATTACHED: Exhibit A - December 29, 2016 ruling; Exhibit B - February 2, 2017 letter;
Exhibit C - 1st Motion To Recuse; Exhibit D - Opposition; Exhibit E - Voluntary Recusal; Exhibit F - February 15, 2017
Article; Exhibit G - 2nd Motion To Recuse; Exhibit H - Memo In Support Of Motion To Recuse; Exhibit I - May 17, 2017
Article; Exhibit J - Motion For New Trial; Exhibit K - Memorandum In Support of Motion For New Trial; Exhibit L (1-7) -
Related "The Franklin Sun" and "The Ouachita Citizen" newspaper articles.

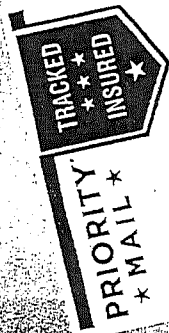
DATE OF SIGNING: May 25, 2017


COMPLAINANT

COMPLAINANT

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Office of the Disciplinary Counsel
4000 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite
607 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816

TERRY A. DOUGHTY
P. O. BOX 90
RAYVILLE, LA 71269



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