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ABOUT US

QUICKLINKS

Consumer Information
How Can I Find and Hire
the Right Lawyer?
Will Form
FAQs
State Bar Overview

Home > Public > Attorney Search > Attorney Profile



ATTORNEY SEARCH

Terrance James Shannon - #94750

Current Status: Disbarred

This member is prohibited from practicing law in California by order of the California Supreme Court.

See below for more details.

Profile Information

The following information is from the official records of The State Bar of California.

Bar Number: 94750
Address: 34052 La Plaza Dr #205
Dana Point, CA 92629
Phone Number: (949) 493-4586
Fax Number: (949) 493-2044
e-mail: Not Available
County: Orange
Undergraduate School: SUNY; NY
District: District 4
Sections: None
Law School: Western State Univ; CA

Status History

Effective Date	Status Change
Present	Disbarred
12/28/2006	Disbarred
4/25/2006	Not Eligible To Practice Law
12/20/1994	Active
12/19/1994	Not Eligible To Practice Law
12/16/1980	Admitted to The State Bar of California

[Explanation of member status](#)

Actions Affecting Eligibility to Practice Law

Effective Date	Description	Case Number	Resulting Status
Disciplinary and Related Actions			
Overview of the attorney discipline system.			
12/28/2006	Disbarment	04-O-11671	Disbarred
7/21/2006	Ordered inactive	04-O-11671	Not Eligible To Practice Law
4/25/2006	Actual Suspension Delayed	00-O-15013	Not Eligible To Practice Law
12/19/1994	Ordered inactive	94-H-16706	Not Eligible To Practice Law
8/25/1993	Private reproof, public disclosure	91-O-06043	

Administrative Actions

This member has no public record of administrative actions.

Copies of official attorney discipline records are [available upon request](#).

[Explanation of common actions](#)

State Bar Court Cases

NOTE: The State Bar Court began posting public discipline documents online in 2005. The format and pagination of documents posted on this site may vary from the originals in the case file as a result of their translation from the original format into Word and PDF. Copies of additional related documents in a case are available upon request. Only Opinions designated for publication in the State Bar Court Reporter may be cited or relied on as precedent in State Bar Court proceedings. For further information about a case that is displayed here, please refer to the State Bar Court's online docket, which can be found at: <http://apps.statebarcourt.ca.gov/dockets/dockets.aspx>

DISCLAIMER: Any posted Notice of Disciplinary Charges, Conviction Transmittal or other initiating document, contains only allegations of professional misconduct. The attorney is presumed to be innocent of any misconduct warranting discipline until the charges have been proven.

Effective Date	Case Number	Description
4/25/2006	00-O-15013	Order [PDF]
4/25/2006	00-O-15013	Order [PDF]
Pending	04-O-11671	Decision [PDF] [WORD]

California Bar Journal Discipline Summaries

Summaries from the California Bar Journal are based on discipline orders but are not the official records. Not all discipline actions have associated CBJ summaries. Copies of official attorney discipline records are [available upon request](#).

December 28, 2006

TERRANCE JAMES SHANNON [#94750], 53, of Dana Point was disbarred Dec. 28, 2006, and was ordered to comply with rule 955.

The State Bar Court found that Shannon committed three acts of misconduct: he failed to perform legal services competently, promptly refund unearned fees or cooperate with the bar's investigation.

The proceedings arose from a case in which Shannon was hired to transfer ownership of a beer and wine license and to apply for a new liquor license for his client's restaurant. The client gave Shannon \$5,000 cash as a flat fee. At the time, Shannon operated a satellite office above the restaurant.

He met with the client, who provided all the information Shannon requested, but it was not complete. After that meeting, Shannon did very little, if any work, on the case. The client finally called the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and learned that no application had been filed on his behalf.

Shannon said he did not file the application because the client did not provide all the necessary information. State Bar Court Judge Richard Platel said he did not believe Shannon's testimony that the client refused to provide complete information or that he sent the client five letters seeking that information.

The client complained to the bar and filed a small claims action against Shannon in an effort to recover his fee. Shannon obtained four continuances of trial, twice in order to complete the ABC application. He did not appear twice and the judge ordered payment to the client of the \$5,000 fee plus \$52 in costs. Shannon paid the fee but not the costs.

Platel also found that Shannon tried to obtain an advantage in the disciplinary proceeding by offering deliberately false testimony in which he claimed the client signed a release and settlement agreement. The client testified that the signature on the agreement was a forgery.

Platel said the evidence Shannon offered in mitigation was not meaningful, and said instead that he has three prior disciplines — a 1993 private reproof and suspensions with probation in 2005 and 2006. The misconduct in the two recent disciplines included failure to perform legal services competently, return client files, communicate with clients or refund unearned fees and engaging

The judge said Shannon had "been engaged in some type of professional misconduct since 1997 through 2005." Had all his misconduct "been prosecuted in one State Bar Court proceeding and (Shannon) did not have any prior record of discipline," Platel added, "disbarment would be called for."

February 24, 2006

TERRENCE JAMES SHANNON [#94750], 52, of Dana Point was suspended for two years, stayed, placed on three years of probation with a two-year actual suspension, and he was ordered to take the MPRE, comply with rule 955 and make restitution. The order took effect Feb. 24, 2006.

A State Bar Court hearing judge found that Shannon committed 16 acts of misconduct in four client matters, including committing an act of moral turpitude, engaging in the unauthorized practice of law in another jurisdiction and failing to respond to reasonable client inquiries, forward client files, refund unearned fees promptly or cooperate with the bar's investigation. Shannon appealed, but the review department increased the recommended discipline.

One client was forced to sue Shannon to recover unearned fees and then had to wait more than a year after obtaining a judgment against Shannon. Another had a \$30,000 judgment entered against her and a lien placed on her property. Two others had to hire new lawyers to recover their funds. The court found that Shannon made numerous misrepresentations to both clients and to bar investigators.

Shannon did some work in a marital dissolution matter, but when he did not respond to numerous phone calls, the client hired a new lawyer. The client won a \$5,000 judgment in small claims court, and when Shannon appealed, he presented a retainer agreement and a billing statement the client said he'd never seen. The court ordered a reduced judgment that Shannon paid only after intervention by the sheriff.

In another matter, he represented the defendant in a slip and fall case in Nevada in which an arbitrator awarded \$30,000 to the plaintiff. Shannon sought a trial and asked a Nevada attorney to associate with him so he could appear in court there. It was the other lawyer's understanding that he would simply assist, but that Shannon would handle the case. The client also believed Shannon was responsible for the case.

When little work was done, a discovery commissioner recommended a \$30,000 judgment against Shannon's client. Final judgment was entered in that amount and the Nevada lawyer became alarmed and said action should be taken immediately to set aside the judgment. Shannon took no action.

At the same time, the client was trying to refinance a loan on a building she owned in Nevada and learned a lien was placed on it. When she finally reached Shannon, he denied he was ever her lawyer. He never took any action to protect the client's interests and she complained to the State Bar.

A Las Vegas couple, incorrectly believing that Shannon was licensed to practice in Nevada, hired him to prepare a living trust. When the husband passed away, the wife called Shannon a dozen times to try to obtain the trust documents from him. He promised more than once to send the documents, but never did. A new lawyer unsuccessfully sought to get the documents and a refund of the couple's \$1,200 fee.

Another client hired Shannon to handle a foreclosure matter involving a property in Seal Beach. After two years, the client signed a power of attorney giving his son the power to act on his behalf with respect to real estate and other transactions. The son hired an attorney who attempted to contact Shannon to determine what work had been done. She asked for all documents pertaining to the property, an accounting and a refund of the fee the original client paid, but Shannon never responded.

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