

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 98- 9060

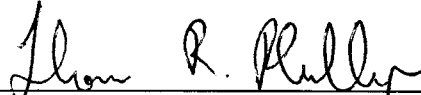
ORDER REVOKING REGULAR LICENSE

ORDERED:

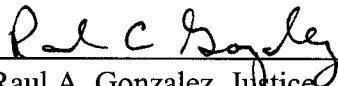
The regular license issued to WILLIAM C. LUCAS is revoked, pursuant to the recommendation contained in the order of the Board of Law Examiners which is attached.

This order shall be effective immediately.

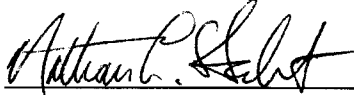
SIGNED on this 22nd day of April, 1998.



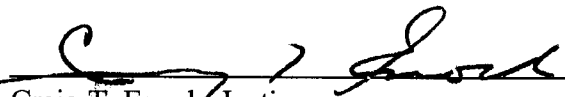
Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice



Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice



Nathan L. Hecht, Justice



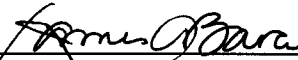
Craig T. Enoch, Justice



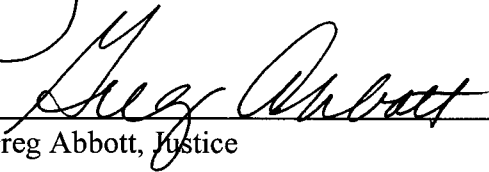
Rose Spector, Justice



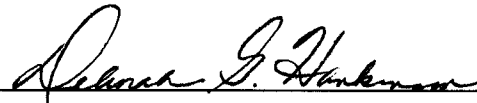
Priscilla R. Owen, Justice



James A. Baker, Justice



Greg Abbott, Justice



Deborah G. Hankinson, Justice

II.

JURISDICTION

The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to V.T.C.A., Government Code, Sections 82.004, 82.022, 82.027, 82.028, and 82.030 as well as Rules II, IV, IX, X, XV, XVI, XVII and XX of the Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas, adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas, effective May 15, 1997.

III.

FINDINGS OF FACT

After considering the evidence and testimony, the Board finds:

1. On or about February 24, 1998, the Board gave Mr. Lucas proper and timely notice, by certified mail, return receipt requested, and first class mail, of a March 13, 1998 hearing (B.E. 7 at 1)
2. Mr. Lucas was past due in his child support obligations at the time of his application for admission in 1993 (B.E.5 at 2, Transcript of Testimony at 8).
3. The Board recommended Mr. Lucas for a license to practice law in the State of Texas following a hearing in 1995 (B.E.1 at 1-2; Transcript of Testimony at 5-6).
4. Mr. Lucas's child support history was not an issue in his 1995 hearing, because at the time of his application for admission he had stated under oath that his child support obligation was not in arrears, and had presented an affidavit from his ex-spouse to that effect (B.E.2 at 6 and 8-9; Transcript of Testimony at 5-6).
5. Mr. Lucas induced his ex-spouse to sign the false affidavit he presented with his application, by promising that she could expect full payment of his child support arrearage in the near future (B.E.5 at 1-3; Transcript of Testimony at 9).
6. The facts of Mr. Lucas's deception regarding his child support history are indicative of the character trait of dishonesty.

7. The Board, had it known the facts of Mr. Lucas's deception regarding his child support history, would not have recommended him for a license to practice.
8. Mr. Lucas used the false affidavit signed by his ex-spouse not only to gain admission to the practice of law in Texas, but also to defeat a Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Action ("URESAs") filed against him (B.E.5 at 2-3; Transcript of Testimony at 15-16).
9. Mr. Lucas, after the URESAs action was concluded in his favor, gave his ex-spouse a check in the amount of \$23,900.00, for "c/s thru 5/98," which was returned for insufficient funds (B.E.5 at 3-5; Transcript of Testimony at 10).
10. Mr. Lucas, after his check for \$23,900.00 was returned for insufficient funds, gave his ex-spouse two checks in the total amount of \$23,900.00, for "C/S in full thru May 1998," both of which were verified by the bank to be no good (B.E.5 at 6-7; Transcript of Testimony at 10-11).
11. Mr. Lucas has demonstrated a lack of financial responsibility, as evidenced by findings of fact 2 and 8 - 10, as found herein.
12. Rule XVII(b) of the Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas provides that, if at any time, it appears that an applicant has obtained a license fraudulently, after notice and hearing, the Board may recommend to the Supreme Court that such license be canceled.
13. Mr. Lucas has obtained his license fraudulently, by personally misleading the Board as to the status of his child support arrearage and inducing his ex-spouse to sign a false affidavit designed to further mislead the Board on this matter, in violation of Rule XVII(b) of the Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas, as evidenced by findings of fact the facts 2 -10, as found herein.
14. The fact that Mr. Lucas has obtained his license fraudulently, by personally misleading the Board as to the status of his child support arrearage and by inducing his ex-spouse to sign a false affidavit designed to further mislead the Board on this matter, as found herein, is indicative of the character trait of dishonesty on his behalf.

15. The Board should recommend to the Supreme Court of Texas that it cancel Mr. Lucas's license to practice law.


IV.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. There is a clear and rational connection between Applicant's dishonesty, as evidenced by the fact that he has obtained his law license fraudulently, in violation of Rule XVII(b) of the Rules Governing Admission to the Bar of Texas, as found herein, and the likelihood that he would injure a client, obstruct the administration of justice, or violate the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct if the Board were not to recommend that his license to practice law be canceled.
2. There is a clear and rational connection between Applicant's lack of financial responsibility, as evidenced by findings of fact 2 and 8 - 10, as found herein, and the likelihood that he would injure a client, obstruct the administration of justice, or violate the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct if the Board were not to recommend that his license to practice law be canceled.

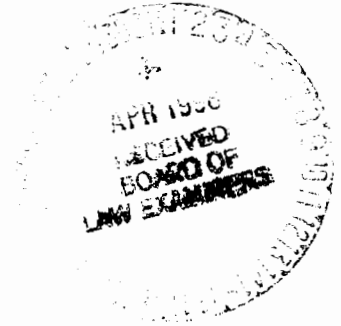
IT IS THEREFORE ADJUDGED, ORDERED AND DECREED that the Board recommend to the Supreme Court of Texas that it cancel Mr. Lucas's law license and that it strike his name from the roll of attorneys licensed to practice in the State of Texas.

Signed this 30 day of April, 1998.


Donato D. Ramos, Presiding Chair

**William C. Lucas
1617 Fannin, #1404
Houston, Texas 77002**

March 30, 1998



Mr. Bruce Wyatt
Board of Law Examiners
P.O. Box 13486
Austin, Texas 78711

C O P Y

Dear Mr. Wyatt:

In furtherance of the surrender of my license to practice please find enclosed my license and bar card. If there is anything further to accomplish the surrender of my license please contact me at the above address.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William C. Lucas".

William C. Lucas