BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL : No. 78 DB 2025

Petitioner

File No. C4-24-82

Attorney Registration No. 316346

JOSEPH DOMINIC POMETTO

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Respondent : (Allegheny County)

ORDER

AND NOW, this 26th day of June, 2025, in accordance with Rule 208(a)(5), Pa.R.D.E., the determination by a Review Panel of the Disciplinary Board of the above captioned matter is accepted; and it is

ORDERED that the said JOSEPH DOMINIC POMETTO of Allegheny County be subjected to a PUBLIC REPRIMAND by the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as provided in Rule 204(a) and Rule 205(c)(8) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall be placed on PROBATION for a period of one (1) year, subject to the following Conditions:

Conditions of Probation:

- Submit quarterly reports to Office of Disciplinary Counsel attesting to and certifying your full compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct;
- Maintain all required books and records required by Rule of Professional
 Conduct 1.15, and make them accessible for review by Office of Disciplinary
 Counsel within 20 days of a request without the necessity for issuance of a subpoena, see Rule 1.15(c); and,

3. Provide with the quarterly reports to Office of Disciplinary Counsel a copy of the check ledgers for each Trust Account and for any other account in which you held Fiduciary Funds pursuant to 1.15(I), the monthly reconciliations for such accounts, and your individual client ledgers for that quarter.

Failure to abide with the terms of the Probation shall be grounds for further action pursuant to Enforcement Rule 208(h). Costs shall be paid by the Respondent.

BY THE BOARD:

David S. Seroff

Board Chair

TRUE COPY FROM RECORD

Attest:

Marcee D. Sloan, Board Prothonotary The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

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Respondent : (Allegheny County)

PUBLIC REPRIMAND

Joseph Dominic Pometto, you appear before the Disciplinary Board for the imposition of a Public Reprimand ordered by the Board on June 26, 2025. Along with this reprimand the Board ordered that you be placed on probation for a period of one year with conditions that you maintain required books and records under RPC 1.15(c), make the books and records accessible to Office of Disciplinary Counsel ("ODC") upon request, and provide quarterly reports to ODC attesting to and certifying your compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct along with copies of check ledgers for accounts containing trust and fiduciary funds, monthly reconciliations for such accounts, and individual client ledgers for that quarter. By letter dated June 26, 2025, the Board notified you of the disposition of this matter and further notified you of your opportunity to demand as of right the institution of formal charges within twenty days of the date of notification. You did not demand the institution of formal charges; therefore, you accept this public reprimand.

It is an unpleasant task to publicly reprimand one who has been granted the privilege of membership in the bar of the Commonwealth. Yet as repugnant as this task may be, it has been found necessary that you receive this public discipline.

Attorney Pometto, the record shows that in January 2024, you had an overdraft in

your IOLTA in the amount of \$17.23. You failed to monitor your IOLTA and failed to perform required monthly reconciliations, thereby allowing an overdraft to occur. You failed to properly account for your billable hours against your refundable billing and withdrew fees prematurely that had not yet been earned. You failed to safeguard client property and improperly utilized client funds. You also failed to report one of your IOLTA accounts on your annual attorney registration statement.

Attorney Pometto, this is not the first time you have had issues with your IOLTA. You received a private reprimand with probation for one year imposed on July 7, 2021, for your misconduct involved mishandling funds in your IOLTA. In that matter, you failed to hold Rule 1.15 funds and property separate from your own, used entrusted funds for personal expenses, and failed to protect entrustments on behalf of two of your clients. And, you failed to maintain required records under RPC 1.15(c). You fulfilled the terms of your probation without incident and it was terminated in April 2022. However, as the record shows, you engaged in additional misconduct.

You have acknowledged that your misconduct is a serious breach of the rules. You have cooperated throughout the investigation of this matter and have addressed law firm issues contributing to these problems.

By your conduct, you violated the following Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC") and Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement ("Pa.R.D.E"):

 RPC 1.15(b) – A lawyer shall hold all Rule 1.15 Funds and property separate from the lawyer's own property. Such property shall be identified and appropriately safeguarded. 2. RPC 1.15(c) - A lawyer shall maintain complete records of the receipt,

maintenance and disposition of Rule 1.15 Funds and property and shall

reconcile each fiduciary account monthly.

3. RPC 8.4(c) – It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct

involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

4. Pa.R.D.E. 219(d)(1)(iii) as amended by Pa.R.D.E. 219(c)(1)(iv)(C) -Failing to

list an IOLTA on the annual attorney registration statement.

5. Pa.R.D.E. 219(d)(5) as amended by Pa.R.D.E. 219(c)(2) - Certifying that

statements on the annual attorney registration form were true and correct when

they were not.

Attorney Pometto, your conduct in this matter is public. This Public Reprimand is

a matter of public record and shall be posted on the Disciplinary Board's website at

www.padisciplinaryboard.org.

It is the Board's duty to reprimand you for your misconduct, and to remind you of

your obligation to comply with the terms and conditions of your one year period of

probation. This is the second time that you have been the subject of discipline since

2021. Please be aware that subsequent violations of the rules or failure to abide by your

probation terms and conditions may result in further discipline and more severe sanctions.

We sincerely hope that you will conduct yourself in such a manner that future disciplinary

action will be unnecessary.

Designated Member

The Disciplinary Board of the

Scott Corpus Inda

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

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Administered by a designated panel of three Members of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2025.