## **Neil Gillespie**

From: "Paul Hill" <phill@flabar.org>

To: "Neil Gillespie" <neilgillespie@mfi.net>

Cc: "LuAnn Everitt" <allu@ptd.net>; "Charles H Dent" <redshorts802@yahoo.com>; "Bonnie Stevens" <reistev@ptd.net>

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 3:00 PM

Attach: 2010, 09-24-10, NJG to Paul Hill, re Dennis Correa.pdf

Subject: Re: Dennis Dale Correa, Bar ID No.: 146321

Mr. Gillespie:

Thank you for this inquiry, which I shared with Clients' Security Fund (CSF) representatives. They report that, per the Regulations of the Clients' Security Fund, it would be too late to file a claim regarding the Correa matter.

Our CSF staff directed me to those regulations at this link on the Bar's website:  $http://www.floridabar.org/tfb/TFBConsum.nsf/48e76203493b82ad852567090070c9b9/2fb08l\\ OpenDocument$ 

Specifically, they point to this provision:

## B. CLAIM PREREQUISITES

1. Ordinarily, no claim will be considered unless a claim for relief has been filed with the bar within 2 years after the claimant has discovered, or with reasonable diligence should have discovered, the loss. Certain events may toll this 2 year period. Regardless of whether the 2 year period is tolled, if the claim is not filed within 4 years from the date the incident giving rise to the loss occurred, the claim will be denied as untimely.

## **COMMENT**

The regulation requires that a claim be filed within 2 years after the claimant discovered or should have discovered the loss. Certain events or actions may toll this 2 year period. The following are examples of events that may toll the 2 year period:

- (i) the filing of a grievance with The Florida Bar;
- (ii) conduct on the part of the attorney such that the claimant was reasonably lead to believe that the attorney was working on the case, had not settled the matter, or would reimburse the claimant for the loss;
- (iii) an award of restitution by a court or order by the supreme court that an attorney must repay the claimant prior to reinstatement if the claimant reasonably relied on the award or order and delayed filing a claim in anticipation of reimbursement; or
- (iv) where the claimant is pursuing other remedies.

However, even if a claim is tolled, it must be filed within 4 years from the date the incident giving rise to the loss occurred. Failure to file the claim within this time will result in denial of the claim.

Should you desire more detailed information regarding the Clients' Security Fund it is available on the Bar website via this link:

 $http://www.floridabar.org/tfb/TFBConsum.nsf/48E76203493B82AD852567090070C9B9/1850I\\ OpenDocument$ 

I hope this information is responsive to your query.

Paul F. Hill General Counsel The Florida Bar 651 East Jefferson Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300 850/561-5661 (Commercial - Direct) 800/342-8060 Ext. 5661 (Toll-Free) 850/561-5826 Facsimile

"Neil Gillespie" <neilgillespie@mfi.net>

09/24/2010 10:51 AM

To "Paul Hill" <phill@flabar.org>

cc "Bonnie Stevens" <reistev@ptd.net>, "Charles H Dent" <redshorts802@yahoo.com>, "LuAnn Everitt" <allu@ptd.net>

Subject Dennis Dale Correa, Bar ID No.: 146321

Mr. Paul F. Hill, General Counsel The Florida Bar 651 East Jefferson Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

RE: Dennis Dale Correa, Bar ID No.: 146321, Resigned in lieu of disciplinary proceedings

Dear Mr. Hill:

For many years I have followed the matter of Dennis Dale Correa who was convicted on five counts of grand theft for stealing over \$900,000 from his clients. Currently the matter is featured on my justice network website at <a href="http://yousue.org/dennis-dale-correa/">http://yousue.org/dennis-dale-correa/</a>

In 1994 Jeffery Good of the St. Petersburg Times wrote that Mr. Correa stole \$391,000 from Myrtle Trembley, who had turned to Correa for help in leaving a final gift to her niece and other loved ones. The niece, Karen Wanich, died several years ago and did not receive much of the restitution that Mr. Correa promised. Recently I heard from a number of the heirs of Myrtle Trembley who report Mr. Correa had not made much restitution.

So that I can better understand this matter, please respond to the following.

- 1. Can a claim be made against the Florida Bar Clients' Security Fund for the money Mr. Correa was convicted of stealing and has not repaid?
- 2. Can interest be charged on the money Mr. Correa was convicted of stealing and has not repaid, pursuant to section 55.03 Florida Statutes, or any other law?

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Neil J. Gillespie

cc: (by email only)
Mrs. Bonnie Dent Stevens
Mr. Charles H. Dent, Jr.
Mrs. LuAnn D. Everitt
Ms. Donna D. Farver