

ROBIN L. HAYNES
(Suspension)

On January 18, 2023, the Idaho Supreme Court entered a Disciplinary Order suspending Post Falls attorney Robin L. Haynes from the practice of law for a period of five years, with two years of that suspension withheld.

The Idaho Supreme Court found that Ms. Haynes violated I.R.P.C. 8.4(c) [Engaging in conduct involving misrepresentations] and I.R.P.C. 8.4(d) [Engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice]. The Idaho Supreme Court's Disciplinary Order followed a stipulated resolution of an Idaho State Bar disciplinary proceeding in which Ms. Haynes admitted that she violated those Rules.

The formal charge case related to Ms. Haynes' conduct in charging expenses to two law firms with whom she was employed and to the Washington State Bar Association ("WSBA"). Ms. Haynes was a long-time volunteer with the WSBA and, in that capacity, traveled to attend meetings and conferences. She charged some WSBA-related volunteer expenses to one law firm's credit card without prior authorization from the law firm and failed to promptly notify and reimburse the law firm when she received direct reimbursement from the WSBA for those expenses. She also failed to promptly notify and reimburse the second law firm for WSBA-related and other personal expenses and failed to properly account to the WSBA for duplicate reimbursements she received and for reimbursements for meetings and conferences she was unable to attend. The conduct at issue occurred between October 2013 and December 2016, and did not involve Ms. Haynes' representation of clients or her handling of client funds. With respect to that conduct, several mitigating factors were considered, including Ms. Haynes' lack of any prior disciplinary record, her cooperation in the disciplinary proceedings, her acknowledgment of the misconduct, her remorse, her repayment of the amounts at issue, and her character and reputation for public service.

The Disciplinary Order provided that upon reinstatement after the three-year period of imposed suspension, Ms. Haynes will serve a two-year period of probation with terms and conditions that include quarterly reports of her compliance with the Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct and the immediate imposition of the withheld period of suspension if she violates the terms of her probation or admits or is found to have violated any Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct for which a public sanction is imposed for conduct that occurred during the probationary period.

Inquiries about this matter may be directed to: Bar Counsel, Idaho State Bar, P.O. Box 895, Boise, Idaho 83701, (208) 334-4500.