

People v. Goff. 13PDJ008. May 9, 2013. Attorney Regulation. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge approved a conditional admission of misconduct submitted by the parties and suspended Richard James Goff (Attorney Registration Number 19348) from the practice of law for one year and one day, all stayed upon the successful completion of a three-year period of probation with conditions, effective May 9, 2013. Goff was hired to represent a client to facilitate a divorce and a determination of his parental rights. Goff failed to advise his client that he could appeal the magistrate's order for a bench warrant, and as a result his client was arrested. Goff also failed to respond to pending motions in the divorce case, including a verified motion for entry of judgment and a motion for compound interest on child-support arrearage. Goff then failed to forward to his client a motion filed by opposing counsel to modify his parenting time. The magistrate ordered the parties to set up a settlement conference and to file mandatory financial disclosures. Goff did not comply with this order. Thereafter, Goff failed to send his client pleadings and failed to respond to other pending motions in both matters. A judgment was entered against Goff's client for \$18,382.77, and Goff did not file a timely request for judicial review of this judgment. Goff then withdrew from the representation and filed a motion for attorney's fees against his client. He made misrepresentations to the court about the total amount of his fees and whether the fees accrued in the divorce case or the modification of parenting time case. Goff's misconduct constitutes grounds for the imposition of discipline pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.5 and violates Colo. RPC 1.1, 1.3, and 1.4(a)(3) and (4).