

*People v. Gomez.* 13PDJ045. June 7, 2013. Attorney Regulation. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge approved a conditional admission of misconduct submitted by the parties and suspended Ernest Gomez (Attorney Registration Number 26321) from the practice of law for nine months, all stayed upon the successful completion of a two-year period of probation, with conditions, effective June 7, 2013. Gomez agreed to represent a client in a criminal matter for a flat fee, but he did not prepare a written fee agreement. Gomez later began charging an hourly rate, yet he still did not memorialize the fee agreement. On three occasions, Gomez deposited fees paid by his client directly into his operating account. After representing the client for more than a month, Gomez was administratively suspended from the practice of law, a fact that he did not disclose to his client. Additionally, he appeared late for court, did not adequately communicate with his client, and did not keep records of his time. Gomez has agreed to refund his client's entire fee. His misconduct constitutes grounds for the imposition of discipline pursuant to C.R.C.P. 251.5 and violated Colo. RPC 1.4(a) and (b); 1.5(a), (b) and (f); 1.15(a) and (c); 3.4(c); 5.5(a); and 8.4(d).