DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RENTAL HOUSING COMMISSION

SC-24-001

In re: Edward Pugh, II, Esq.

DISCHARGE OF ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

July 18, 2024

HUNTER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE: On July 10, 2024, Edward Pugh, II ("Counsel" or "Mr. Pugh") appeared before the Rental Housing Commission ("Commission") on an Order to Show Cause that arose out of his failure to appear at the June 25, 2025 hearing, in Berrios v. Peter N.G. Schwartz Management, Inc., RH-TP-17-31,002. Mr. Pugh was counsel of record on behalf of the housing provider/appellee in that case. The Commission issued its Order to Show Cause on June 25, 2024, and Counsel filed his Response to the Order to Show Cause on July 27, 2024.

At the hearing, Counsel was present along with a representative for his client the housing provider. Counsel represented that his absence from the June 25th hearing was inadvertent, due to his failure to see an email from the Commission. He further represented that he did not willfully fail to appear, and that he has practiced before the Commission for several years.

Under14 DCMR § 3812.5 (2004), "[t]he Commission may disqualify, deny, temporarily or permanently, the privilege of appearing before it . . . to any individual who is found . . . either to be lacking in the requisite qualifications to represent others or to have engaged in unethical, improper, or unprofessional conduct." Attorneys who enter their appearance to represent clients on matters on appeal to the Commission should use their utmost diligence in reviewing orders, tracking cases, calendaring deadlines and hearings, filing motions and communicating with the Clerk of the Court. Here, the Commission will not exercise its discretion to disqualify, deny,

temporarily or permanently, the privilege of Counsel from appearing before the Commission based on his absence from the June 25, 2024, hearing. The Commission accepts Counsel's earnest representation, candor, and contrition and determines that sanctions are not warranted.

Accordingly, the Order to Show Cause is discharged with no further action required from Mr. Pugh.

SO ORDERED.

Adam Hunter (Jul 18, 2024 12:01 EDT)

ADAM HUNTER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION

Pursuant to 14 DCMR § 3823 (2004), final decisions of the Commission are subject to reconsideration or modification. The Commission's rule, 14 DCMR § 3823.1 (2004), provides, "[a]ny party adversely affected by a decision of the Commission issued to dispose of the appeal may file a motion for reconsideration or modification with the Commission within ten (10) days of receipt of the decision."

JUDICIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 42-3502.19 (2012 Repl.), "[a]ny person aggrieved by a decision of the Rental Housing Commission…may seek judicial review of the decision…by filing a petition for review in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Petitions for review of the Commission's decisions are filed in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and are governed by Title III of the Rules of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. The court may be contacted at the following address and telephone number:

D.C. Court of Appeals
Office of the Clerk
430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 879-2700

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing **DISCHARGE OF ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE** in SC-24-001 was served electronically on this **18th day** of **July, 2024** to:

E.L. Pugh, II
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LaTonya Miles
Clerk of the Court
(202) 442-8949