In re Kalscheur, 13 ROP 149 (2006) In the Matter of CLARA KALSCHEUR, Respondent.

Disciplinary Proceeding No. 05-004

Supreme Court, Disciplinary Tribunal Republic of Palau

Decided: July 31, 2006

Counsel for Respondent: Pro se

BEFORE: KATHLEEN M. SALII, Associate Justice; LOURDES F. MATERNE, Associate

Justice; J. UDUCH SENIOR, Associate Justice Pro Tem.

Respondent has filed a petition for reinstatement following her six-month suspension from the practice of law in the Republic of Palau entered by this Tribunal on September 2, 2005. The Tribunal's suspension of Kalscheur was motivated by her repeated failure to exercise reasonable diligence in the representation of her clients. Her transgressions included, *inter alia*, her failure, after having received numerous extensions, to appeal a \$1.5 million judgment against a client and, on another occasion, her failure to respond to a motion for summary judgment against a client, which ultimately resulted in the dismissal of her client's claim for failure to prosecute. During her disciplinary hearing, Kalscheur admitted that her professional performance had been lacking and attributed her deficiencies to her ongoing medical problems. While sensitive to her medical needs, the Tribunal concluded that her conditions left her unfit to practice law for the time being and suspended her law license for six months. Moreover, the Tribunal provided that when and if Kalscheur applied for reinstatement, she would have to prove to the panel's satisfaction that she is L150 both emotionally and physically fit to practice law in the Republic of Palau.

Kalscheur has now submitted a petition for reinstatement, along with supporting letters from two attending physicians, Dr. Aprilynn Reyes and Dr. Christina Lapat. Both Dr. Reyes and Dr. Lapat have recently reevaluated Kalscheur and concluded that her condition has improved to the point where she is now fit to practice law. Pursuant to these conclusions, as well as Rule 13 of the ROP Disciplinary Rules and Procedure, the Tribunal grants Kalscheur's petition for reinstatement.