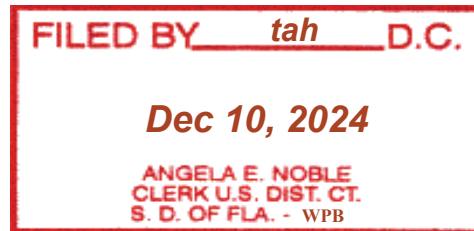


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2024-98
CASE NO. 24-MC-23811

IN RE: MICHAEL J. KELLER
FLORIDA BAR # 233640



ORDER OF DISBARMENT

On October 2, 2024, following an uncontested report of the referee, the Supreme Court of Florida entered an Order of Disbarment, disbarring Michael J. Keller from the practice of law. *See The Florida Bar v. Keller*, No. SC2024-0017, 2024 WL 4369933 (Fla. Oct. 2, 2024) [ECF No. 1].

The Clerk attempted to serve Mr. Keller by certified mail with an order to show cause why this Court should not impose the same discipline, accompanied by the Supreme Court of Florida's Order of Disbarment. (*See* Order to Show Cause [ECF No. 2]). Service at Mr. Keller's court record address was returned with the notation "Return to Sender-Vacant-Unable to Forward." No return receipt was returned for service at Mr. Keller's Florida Bar address. Second attempts at service were made to both addresses on November 8, 2024. Service at Mr. Keller's court record address was returned with the notation "Return to Sender — No Such Number — Unable to Forward" and service at his Florida Bar address was returned with the notation "Return to Sender — Attempted — Not Known — Unable to Forward."

Rule 8(a) of the Rules Governing the Admission, Practice, Peer Review, and Discipline of Attorneys, Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, requires that an attorney admitted to practice before this Court, upon being subjected to reprimand, discipline, suspension, or disbarment by any other court of the United States, promptly inform the Clerk of Court.

CASE NO. 24-23811-MC-ALTONAGA

See id. After expiration of the time for submitting a response to an order to show cause, the Court may impose the identical discipline or any other sanction the Court deems appropriate. *See* S.D. Fla. Att’y R. 8(d). Even if service is contested, members of this Bar have an obligation to provide updated contact information to the Clerk within seven days of any change; “[t]he failure to comply shall not constitute grounds for relief from deadlines imposed by Rule or by the Court.” Local Rule 11.1(g) (alteration added). This obligation to maintain current contact information is reiterated in the Court’s CM/ECF Administrative Procedures Manual, section 3D, compliance with which is mandated by Local Rule 5.1.

Given this background, under Attorney Rules 8(a) and (d), Local Rule 11.1(g), and the Court’s inherent power to regulate membership in its bar for the protection of the public interest, *see Chambers v. NASCO, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 32, 43 (1991) (“[A] federal court has the power to control admission to its bar and to discipline attorneys who appear before it.” (alteration added; citation omitted)), it is


ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

1. Mr. Keller is disbarred from practice in this Court, effective immediately. Mr. Keller may not resume the practice of law before this Court until reinstated by order of the Court. *See* S.D. Fla. Att’y R. 12(a).
2. Mr. Keller shall advise the Clerk of Court of all pending cases before this Court in which he is counsel or co-counsel of record.
3. The Clerk of Court shall **STRIKE** Mr. Keller from the roll of attorneys eligible to practice in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida and shall also immediately revoke the attorney’s CM/ECF password.

CASE NO. 24-23811-MC-ALTONAGA

4. The Clerk of Court shall attempt to serve by certified mail a copy of this Order of Disbarment on Mr. Keller at his court record and Florida Bar addresses.

DONE AND ORDERED at Miami, Florida, this 10th day of December, 2024.



CECILIA M. ALTONAGA
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

cc: All South Florida Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Judges
All Southern District of Florida District Judges, Bankruptcy Judges, and Magistrate Judges
United States Attorney
Circuit Executive
Federal Public Defender
Clerks of Court – District, Bankruptcy, and Eleventh Circuit
Florida Bar and National Lawyer Regulatory Data Bank
Library
Michael J. Keller