

**In the Matter of Jeffrey S. Siirtola , Bar No.: 011717, PDJ-2011-9058 filed October 26, 2011. Attorney Suspended for six months and one day, Fee Arbitration and Costs imposed.**

In Count One, Respondent represented criminal defendants in a DUI and other related criminal offenses. Respondent filed virtually identical motions in each cases which the court found to be overbroad, premature, boilerplate, and not applicable to Graham County. The court further rejected Respondent's initial disclosure statement because it failed to give specific notice of the defense's witnesses.

In Count Two, Respondent, in his closing argument, failed to refrain from referring to the level of the charged crimes in his closing argument after the court ruled it would not tell the jury the level of the offenses; insinuated that the prosecutors had overcharged the case because the prosecutor was male and did not understand "female problems;" and hinted at the possible penalty facing his client. Upon appeal, Respondent filed his appellate briefs late.

In Count Three, Respondent failed to appear at hearing which caused the hearing to be continued.

In Count Four, Respondent falsely argued in motions regarding the reasons for the continuance of the hearing and made false statements in subsequent motions and at oral argument regarding plea offers.

In two additional counts, Respondent's fee agreement provided for an "earned by attorney upon receipt" and did not simultaneously advise the clients that they could discharge Respondent at any time during the representation and may be entitled to a refund of all or part of the fee based upon the value of the representation. Respondent further failed to timely provide the clients with an accounting upon request.

Aggravating factors: prior disciplinary offenses, multiple offenses, and substantial experience in the practice of law.

Mitigating factors: personal or emotional problems and imposition of other penalties or sanctions.

Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., specifically ERs 1.3, 1.5(d)(3), 1.15(d), 3.1, 3.2, 3.3(a)(1), 3.4(e), and 8.4(d).