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November 30, 2012

Mr. Richard Milligan, Esq.
Bar Counsel
Milligan Pusateri Co., LPA
4684 Douglas Circle, NW
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RE: A WARNING to New Lawyers

Dear Mr. Milligan:

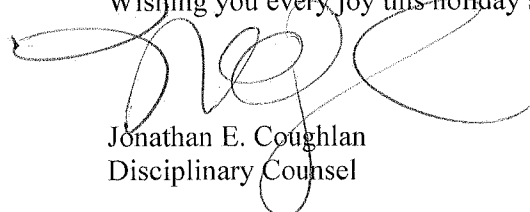
On November 5th the Supreme Court of Ohio swore in nearly 900 new attorneys. After the court issued its decision in *Disciplinary Counsel v. Lorenzon*, 2012 WL 4944302 (Ohio) we met with representatives from the Ohio Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. These folks told us that the fact pattern of *Lorenzon* is commonplace, that new/young attorneys are being targeted, often by ads similar to the one enclosed that appeared on craigslist, by out of state credit repair and foreclosure rescue operations to act as the Ohio "face" for and assist in their consumer fraud. As we know that more new lawyers than ever are starting solo practices right out of law school, this is an issue of grave concern.

At his hearing, Mr. Lorenzon testified that Consumer Law Group (CLG), a Florida law firm that negotiates debt on behalf of consumers, placed an ad in his law school's placement office. Lorenzon responded to the ad and agreed that he would be paid \$1000 annually to serve as local counsel for CLG and that he would execute a contract with each Ohio client. To facilitate the execution of the contracts, Lorenzon provided CLG with his electronic signature and Ohio attorney registration number. CLG used these items to enter into at least four contracts with Ohio residents without Lorenzon's knowledge. The court determined that in failing to properly supervise the use of his signature, Lorenzon had exposed vulnerable and unsuspecting Ohio consumers to the questionable practices of an out-of-state debt negotiation firm and violated Prof.Cond.R. 8.4(h). He received a six-month stayed suspension.

As we are now at the height of the "CLE rush," we urge you to review *Lorenzon* and spread its message to the members of your bar association. The greatest "gift" we can give our new attorneys in this season of giving is sage advice – to avoid becoming involved in practices that jeopardize the very license they worked so hard to obtain. Please use whatever resources are available to you (i.e., new lawyer committees, CLE, bar publications) to warn young attorneys of the potential dangers of associating themselves with organizations like CLG. If they would like to discuss the ethical considerations of entering into such a relationship, they may call our hotline at (800) 589-5256 or BOC at (800) 826-9010. We will be happy to remind them of the old adage, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance with this matter.

Wishing you every joy this holiday season,



Jonathan E. Coughlan
Disciplinary Counsel

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Part-Time Consumer Collection Attorney (Work from Home)

Date: 2012-10-31, 1:14PM EDT

[Reply to this post](#) vgkstk-3377306904@job.craigslist.org [[click here to reply via email?](#)]

Part-Time Consumer Collection Attorney (Work from Home)

A national collection firm is looking for a part-time or occasional attorney licensed to practice law in Ohio for help settling unsecured consumer debts with major credit card companies. No prior experience is necessary.

- Location: Work from Home
- Compensation: On a Per Settlement Basis
- Telecommuting is ok.
- This is a part-time job.
- OK to highlight this job opening for persons with disabilities
- Principals only. Recruiters, please don't contact this job poster.
- Please, no phone calls about this job!

- Compensation: TBD
- This is a part-time job.
- This is a contract job.
- Principals only. Recruiters, please don't contact this job poster.
- Please, no phone calls about this job!
- Please do not contact job poster about other services, products or commercial interests.

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