

DISCIPLINARY BOARD  
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

**ANDREW MICHAEL REEVES,**

Lawyer (Bar No. 47116).

Proceeding No. 24#00049

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF  
LAW AND HEARING OFFICER'S  
RECOMMENDATION

The undersigned Hearing Officer held a default hearing on January 15, 2025, under Rule 10.6(b)(3) of the Washington Supreme Court's Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC). An Order of Default was entered on December 5, 2024 [BF #12]. At the Hearing Officer's discretion, and as authorized by ELC 10.6(b)(3), the default hearing was conducted on written submissions, which were:

- ODC's Default Hearing Brief, dated January 10, 2025 [BF #15];
- Declaration of Claire Carden, dated January 10, 2025 [BF #16], which was filed under seal pursuant to the Protective Order, dated January 14, 2025 [BF#17].

Respondent did not participate in the default hearing, and may not participate further unless the order of default is vacated. ELC 10.6(b)(2). However, in emails dated January 25, 2025, and February 10, 2025, Respondent sought certain relief from the default [see BF ## 24-26]. As a result, Respondent's matter was transferred to a supplemental proceeding [BF #27].



1 **COUNT 3**

2 By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the North Olympic View  
3 Condominiums permit application and a final written decision on the North Olympic View  
4 Condominiums permit application that complied with Sequim Municipal Code 2.10.080(D),  
5 Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

6 **COUNT 4**

7 By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the Community Lifeline permit  
8 application and a final written decision on the Community Lifeline permit application that  
9 complied with Shelton Municipal Code 2.36.170, Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

10 **COUNT 5**

11 By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the Pineo permit application and a  
12 final written decision on the Pineo permit application that complied with Bremerton Municipal  
13 Code 1.04.080(e), Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

14 **FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**  
15 **REGARDING RECOMMENDED SANCTION**

16 4. Respondent acted knowingly in Counts 1-5.

17 5. Respondent caused actual injury to the parties in the Concrete Nor'west application,  
18 in the form of delay. This delay was approximately 18-1/2 months.<sup>1</sup>

19 6. Respondent caused Concrete Nor'west actual injury by forcing Concrete Nor'west  
20 to expend funds to litigate motions for contempt, and to litigate the Writ of Mandamus.

21 7. Respondent caused actual injury to Skagit County in the amount of \$35,000, to pay  
22 another hearing examiner to do work Respondent already had been paid to do.

23 <sup>1</sup> The record shows that the original due date for the decision in the Concrete Nor'west matter, was  
24 Monday, November 14, 2022. [BF #2, ¶¶ 4-5.]

1 8. Respondent caused actual injury to the parties in the North Olympic View  
2 Condominiums application, in the form of delay. This delay was approximately 4-1/2 months.  
3 Respondent held the hearing for the North Olympic View Condominiums application while the  
4 final written decision in the Concrete Nor'west matter was still pending.

5 9. Respondent caused actual injury to the parties in the Community Lifeline  
6 application, in the form of delay. This delay was nearly 3 months. Respondent held the hearing  
7 for the Community Lifeline application while the final written decision in the Concrete Nor'west  
8 matter was still pending.

9 10. Respondent caused actual injury to the parties in the Pineo permit application, in the  
10 form of delay. Respondent held the hearing for the Pineo application while the final written  
11 decision in the Concrete Nor'west matter was still pending

12 11. Respondent caused harm to the profession by bringing disrepute.

13 12. The following standards of the American Bar Association's Standards for Imposing  
14 Lawyer Sanctions ("ABA Standards") (1991 ed. & Feb. 1992 Supp.) presumptively apply in this  
15 case:

16 ***7.0 Violations of Duties Owed as a Professional***

17 7.1 Disbarment is generally appropriate when a lawyer knowingly engages  
18 in conduct that is a violation of a duty owed as a professional with the  
19 intent to obtain a benefit for the lawyer or another, and causes serious or  
potentially serious injury to a client, the public, or the legal system.

20 7.2 Suspension is generally appropriate when a lawyer knowingly engages  
21 in conduct that is a violation of a duty owed as a professional and causes  
injury or potential injury to a client, the public, or the legal system.

22 7.3 Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer negligently engages  
23 in conduct that is a violation of a duty owed as a professional and causes  
24 injury or potential injury to a client, the public, or the legal system.

1 7.4 Admonition is generally appropriate when a lawyer engages in an  
2 isolated instance of negligence that is a violation of a duty owed as a  
3 professional, and causes little or no actual or potential injury to a client, the  
4 public, or the legal system.

### 6.2 Abuse of the Legal Process

5 6.21 Disbarment is generally appropriate when a lawyer knowingly violated  
6 a court order or rule with the intent to obtain a benefit for the lawyer or  
7 another, and causes serious injury or potentially serious injury to a party or  
8 causes serious or potentially serious interference with a legal proceeding.

9 6.22 Suspension is generally appropriate when a lawyer knows that he or  
10 she is violating a court order or rule, and causes injury or potential injury to  
11 a client or third party, or causes interference or potential interference with a  
12 legal proceeding.

13 6.23 Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer negligently fails to  
14 comply with a court order or rule, and causes injury or potential injury to a  
15 client or other party, or causes interference or potential interference with a  
16 legal proceeding.

17 6.24 Admonition is generally appropriate when a lawyer engages in an  
18 isolated instance of negligence in complying with a court order or rule, and  
19 causes little or no actual or potential injury to a party, or causes little or no  
20 actual or potential interference with a legal proceeding.

21 13. The presumptive sanction for Counts 1-5 is suspension, pursuant to ABA Standard  
22 7.2. ABA Standard 6.22 also applies to Count 2, with a presumptive sanction of suspension.

23 14. The following aggravating factors set forth in Section 9.22 of the ABA Standards  
24 apply in this case:

- (c) a pattern of misconduct; and
- (d) multiple offenses.

15 15. It is an additional aggravating factor that Respondent failed to file an answer to the  
16 Formal Complaint as required by ELC 10.5(a).

17 16. The following mitigating factors set forth in Section 9.32 of the ABA Standards  
18 apply to this case:

- 1 (a) absence of a prior disciplinary record; and  
2 (c) personal or emotional problems.

3 17. Based on the record before the Hearing Officer, there is no reason to depart from the  
4 presumptive sanction of suspension.

5 **RECOMMENDED SANCTION**

6 18. Based on the ABA Standards and the applicable aggravating and mitigating factors,  
7 the Hearing Officer recommends that Respondent Andrew Michael Reeves be suspended for one  
8 year. While ODC has recommended a nine-month suspension, the undersigned recommends a  
9 one year suspension given the actual harm to the multiple parties involved in the permit  
10 applications of Concrete Nor'west, North Olympic View Condominiums, Community Lifeline,  
11 and Pineo, and actual harm to Skagit County, the City of Sequim, the City of Shelton, and the  
12 City of Bremerton. Were it not for the mitigating factor set forth in ABA Standard 9.32(c), the  
13 undersigned would have recommended an 18-month suspension.

14 **RECOMMENDED TERMS FOR REINSTATEMENT FROM SUSPENSION**

15 19. Reinstatement from suspension should be conditioned on an independent fitness to  
16 practice evaluation by a licensed mental health professional to be approved by disciplinary  
17 counsel and to be obtained at Respondent's own expense.

18 20. The evaluation shall occur at least 30 days prior to a request for reinstatement.

19 21. Respondent shall execute all necessary releases to permit the evaluator and  
20 disciplinary counsel to obtain full access to all health care and treatment records, and to permit  
21 the evaluator to report to disciplinary counsel regarding the evaluation and Respondent's fitness  
22 to practice law.

23 22. If the evaluator concludes that Respondent is not currently fit to practice law, the  
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1 report shall recommend a course of treatment to enable Respondent to return to the practice of  
2 law.

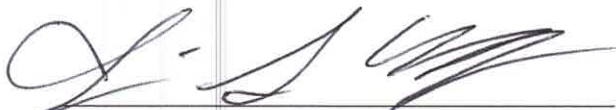
3 23. If the evaluator concludes that Respondent is not currently fit to practice law,  
4 Respondent (or Respondent's counsel, if Respondent is then represented) and disciplinary counsel  
5 shall meet to discuss the evaluator's report and what steps can be taken to address the evaluator's  
6 concerns. If Respondent and disciplinary counsel cannot reach an agreement, both parties may  
7 present written materials and argument to the Disciplinary Board. The Disciplinary Board shall  
8 determine whether and under what conditions Respondent may return to the active practice of  
9 law.

10 24. Reinstatement from suspension is also conditioned on Respondent's payment of  
11 costs.

#### 12 **RECOMMENDED PROBATION TERMS**

13 25. Probation for two years with the conditions set forth in Appendix A.

14 DATED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2025.

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17 Janice Sue Wang, WSBA No. 19104  
18 Hearing Officer  
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1 i) on a quarterly basis, send written reports to the Probation Administrator that  
2 include the dates of treatment, whether Respondent has been cooperative with  
treatment, and whether continued treatment is recommended;

3 ii) report immediately to the Probation Administrator if Respondent fails to appear  
4 for treatment or stops treatment without the provider's agreement and consent  
prior to either termination of the treatment plan or expiration of the probation  
5 period set forth in this order;

6 iii) report immediately to the Probation Administrator if Respondent fails to  
comply with any treatment recommendations of the treatment provider;

7 iv) report immediately to the Probation Administrator if Respondent otherwise  
violates any of the terms or conditions of treatment;

8 v) report immediately to the Probation Administrator if the provider will no longer  
9 serve as treatment provider to Respondent prior to termination of the treatment  
plan or expiration of the probation period set forth in this order; and

10 vi) report to the Probation Administrator if Respondent successfully completes  
11 treatment and is discharged from further treatment. Respondent shall provide a  
copy of the authorization to the Probation Administrator upon execution.

12 g) Respondent is responsible for paying any and all fees, costs, and/or expenses of mental  
13 health evaluation and treatment.

#### 14 4. Ethics School

15 a) Respondent shall attend Ethics School by webinar (approximately 7.5 hours), or by  
16 obtaining the recorded product, and to pay registration costs of \$150 plus applicable sales  
tax. Respondent will receive all applicable approved CLE credits for time in attendance  
at the Ethics School.

17 b) Attendance at Ethics School is in addition to and shall not fulfill any continuing legal  
18 education (CLE) requirements set out in this order.

19 c) Respondent shall contact the Ethics School Administrator, currently Claire Carden, at  
20 (206) 727-8220 or [clairec@wsba.org](mailto:clairec@wsba.org), within 60 days of reinstatement to confirm  
enrollment in Ethics School and related logistics.

21 d) Respondent shall complete the ethics school requirement within 6 months of  
reinstatement.

22 e) Respondent shall provide evidence of completion of ethics school to the Probation  
23 Administrator no later than 30 days after the conclusion of the course. Proof of attendance  
shall include the program brochure, evidence of payment, and a written statement that  
24 includes the date and time of attendance.

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f) The Ethics School administrator may respond to inquiries from the Probation Administrator regarding Respondent's compliance with these conditions.

APPENDIX B

**FILED**

Aug 20, 2024

Disciplinary  
Board

Docket # 002

DISCIPLINARY BOARD  
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

**ANDREW MICHAEL REEVES,**  
Lawyer (Bar No. 47116).

Proceeding No. 24#00049

FORMAL COMPLAINT

Under Rule 10.3 of the Washington Supreme Court's Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC), the Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) of the Washington State Bar Association charges the above-named lawyer with acts of misconduct under the Washington Supreme Court's Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) as set forth below.

**ADMISSION TO PRACTICE**

1. Respondent Andrew Michael Reeves was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Washington on January 21, 2014.

**FACTS REGARDING COUNTS 1 AND 2**

2. At all relevant times, Respondent was the hearing examiner on Skagit County permit application PL22-01242 for Concrete Nor'west (the Concrete Nor'west application).

3. Beginning August 26, 2022, Respondent presided over the seven-day hearing on

1 the Concrete Nor'west application.

2 4. On October 28, 2022, Respondent received the final briefing.

3 5. Pursuant to Skagit County Code 14.06.160(9), Respondent had 15 days from the  
4 submission of the final briefing to render a final written decision.

5 6. The parties agreed to seven extensions of the 15-day deadline.

6 7. On July 10, 2023, the last extension expired.

7 8. Respondent did not issue a decision on or before July 10, 2023.

8 9. On August 9, 2023, Concrete Nor'west filed suit against Skagit County and  
9 Respondent seeking damages and a Writ of Mandamus.

10 10. On December 8, 2023, the Skagit County Superior Court issued a Writ of  
11 Mandamus ordering Respondent to issue a final written decision by 4:30 p.m. on December 15,  
12 2023.

13 11. Respondent did not issue a decision on or before December 15, 2023.

14 12. On December 20, 2023, Concrete Nor'west filed a motion for contempt for  
15 Respondent's failure to comply with the December 8, 2023 order compelling Respondent to  
16 issue a decision.

17 13. The court set a hearing on Concrete Nor'west's contempt motion for January 5,  
18 2024.

19 14. Respondent was served with the motion and the order setting the hearing.

20 15. Respondent did not respond to the motion for contempt.

21 16. Respondent did not appear at the January 5, 2024 contempt hearing.

22 17. Respondent was held in contempt based on a finding that Respondent's "failure to  
23 issue a final written decision on the Permit is willful disobedience of the 12/8 Order[.]"

1 18. At the January 5, 2024 contempt hearing, the court ordered Respondent to issue a  
2 final written decision on Concrete Nor'west's application by 9:30 a.m. on January 19, 2024.

3 19. The court ordered Respondent to appear in person at the Skagit County Superior  
4 Court at 9:30 a.m. on January 19, 2024.

5 20. Respondent did not issue a written decision on or before January 19, 2024.

6 21. On January 19, 2024, Respondent appeared at the Skagit County Superior Court.

7 22. At the January 19, 2024 contempt hearing, the court ordered Respondent to issue a  
8 final written decision by 9:30 a.m. on February 1, 2024.

9 23. On February 1, 2024, Respondent filed a document titled "Final Decision of  
10 Former Hearing Examiner Respondent (Absent Reconsideration)."

11 24. Respondent's final written decision did not comply with Skagit County Code  
12 14.06.160(9).

13 25. Respondent's final written decision did not include a statement of the applicable  
14 criteria and standards.

15 26. Respondent's final written decision did not include any application of Skagit  
16 County code.

17 27. Respondent's final written decision did not include any application of state law.

18 28. Respondent's final written decision did not include a statement of facts.

19 29. At least two interested parties filed motions to reconsider.

20 30. On March 4, 2024, the Board of Skagit County Commissioners (Board) signed a  
21 resolution immediately removing Respondent as hearing examiner on the Concrete Nor'west  
22 application.

23 31. The Board found that it "has no confidence that Andrew Reeves will issue a

1 decision on reconsideration that gives the parties meaningful basis to address issues of concern  
2 for the parties and pursue appeal[.]”

3 32. On March 4, 2024, the Board appointed a new hearing examiner to conduct a  
4 review of the Concrete Nor’west application and Respondent’s decision and issue the necessary  
5 decision(s) within 90 days of execution of the contract.

6 33. The Board agreed to pay the new hearing examiner \$35,000 to complete the work  
7 outlined in paragraph 32.

8 34. Respondent’s conduct in failing to comply with the court’s orders to produce a  
9 compliant, final, written decision, as set forth in paragraphs 7-28, was knowing.

10 35. Respondent’s failure to comply with the court’s orders caused Concrete Nor’west  
11 actual injury by forcing Concrete Nor’west to expend funds to litigate motions for contempt.

12 36. Respondent’s failure to comply with the court’s orders caused Concrete Nor’west  
13 actual injury by forcing Concrete Nor’west to expend funds to litigate the Writ of Mandamus.

14 37. Respondent’s conduct in failing to issue a timely and compliant final written  
15 decision on the Concrete Nor’west application, as set forth in paragraphs 7-28, was knowing.

16 38. Respondent’s conduct in failing to issue a timely, compliant, final written decision  
17 caused actual injury to Skagit County, which had to pay another hearing examiner to do work  
18 Respondent had already been paid to do.

19 **COUNT 1**

20 39. By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the Concrete Nor’west permit  
21 application and/or a final written decision on the Concrete Nor’west permit application that  
22 complied with Skagit County Code 14.06.160(9), Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

1 **COUNT 2**

2 40. By knowingly disobeying court orders, Respondent violated RPC 3.4(c) and/or  
3 RPC 8.4(j).

4 **FACTS REGARDING COUNTS 3, 4, AND 5**

5 41. At all relevant times, Respondent was the hearing examiner for the City of Sequim.

6 42. On July 29, 2023, Respondent presided over the North Olympic View  
7 Condominiums permit application.

8 43. Sequim Municipal Code 2.10.080(D) requires a hearing examiner to issue a final  
9 written decision within 10 business days.

10 44. Respondent never issued a final written decision on the North Olympic View  
11 Condominiums permit application.

12 45. In December 2023, the City of Sequim appointed an alternate hearing examiner on  
13 the North Olympic View Condominiums permit application.

14 46. On December 27, 2023, the new hearing examiner issued a final written decision.

15 47. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision in the North  
16 Olympic View Condominiums permit application, as set for in paragraphs 41-46, was knowing.

17 48. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision in the North  
18 Olympic View Condominiums permit application caused actual injury to the parties to the  
19 application in the form of delay.

20 49. At all relevant times, Respondent was the hearing examiner for the City of Shelton.

21 50. On December 11, 2023, Respondent presided over the Community Lifeline permit  
22 application.

23 51. Shelton Municipal Code 2.36.170 requires a hearing examiner to issue a final

1 written decision within 10 days.

2 52. Respondent never issued a final written decision on the Community Lifeline  
3 permit application.

4 53. The City of Shelton appointed a new hearing examiner on the Community Lifeline  
5 permit application.

6 54. On February 15, 2024, the new hearing examiner issued a final written decision on  
7 the Community Lifeline permit application.

8 55. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision in the Community  
9 Lifeline permit application, as set for in paragraphs 49-54, was knowing.

10 56. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision in the Community  
11 Lifeline permit application caused actual injury to the parties to the application in the form of  
12 delay.

13 57. At all relevant times, Respondent was the hearing examiner for the City of  
14 Bremerton.

15 58. On December 5, 2022, Respondent presided over the Pineo permit application.

16 59. Bremerton Municipal Code 1.04.080(e) requires a hearing examiner to issue a final  
17 written decision within 10 days.

18 60. Respondent never issued a final written decision on the Pineo permit application.

19 61. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision on the Pineo  
20 permit application, as set for in paragraphs 57-60, was knowing.

21 62. Respondent's conduct in failing to issue a final written decision in the Pineo permit  
22 application caused actual injury to the parties to the application in the form of delay.

1 **COUNT 3**

2 63. By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the North Olympic View  
3 Condominiums permit application and/or a final written decision on the North Olympic View  
4 Condominiums permit application that complied with Sequim Municipal Code 2.10.080(D),  
5 Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

6 **COUNT 4**

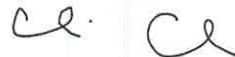
7 64. By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the Community Lifeline  
8 permit application and/or a final written decision on the Community Lifeline permit application  
9 that complied with Shelton Municipal Code 2.36.170, Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

10 **COUNT 5**

11 65. By failing to issue a timely final written decision on the Pineo permit application  
12 and/or a final written decision on the Pineo permit application that complied with Bremerton  
13 Municipal Code 1.04.080(e), Respondent violated RPC 8.4(d).

14 THEREFORE, Disciplinary Counsel requests that a hearing be held under the Rules for  
15 Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct. Possible dispositions include disciplinary action, probation,  
16 restitution, and assessment of the costs and expenses of these proceedings.

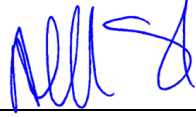
17  
18 Dated this 20th day of August, 2024.

19 

20 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 Claire Carden, Bar No. 50590  
22 Disciplinary Counsel  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I caused a copy of the FOF, COL and HO's Recommendation to be emailed to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and to Respondent, Andrew Michael Reeves, at [andrew.tlclaw@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.tlclaw@gmail.com), on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. D.', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Clerk to the Disciplinary Board