

**FILED**

Jan 14, 2026

Disciplinary  
Board

Docket # 013

DISCIPLINARY BOARD  
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

**ASHLEY BRIANA CUBER,**

Lawyer (Bar No. 59370).

Proceeding No. 25#00032

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

The undersigned Hearing Officer held a default hearing under Rule 10.6 of the Washington Supreme Court's Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC).

**FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW  
REGARDING CHARGED VIOLATIONS**

1. The Formal Complaint (Bar File No. 2) charged Respondent, Ashley Briana Cuber, with misconduct as set forth therein. A copy of the Formal Complaint is attached to this decision.

2. Under ELC 10.6(a)(4), the Hearing Officer finds that each of the facts set forth in the Formal Complaint is admitted and established.

3. Under ELC 10.6(a)(4), the Hearing Officer concludes that each of the violations charged in the Formal Complaint is admitted and established as follows:

Count 1: By failing to respond to RR's reasonable requests for information, Respondent violated Colorado Rule of Professional Conduct (CRPC) 1.4(a) and (b).

1 Count 2: By failing to complete RR's and KG's work permit applications, Respondent  
2 violated CRPC 1.3.

3 Count 3: By failing to respond to ODC's requests for information and by failing to appear  
4 at a deposition to which Respondent had been subpoenaed, Respondent violated RPC 8.1(b) and  
5 RPC 8.4(l) (by violating ELC 1.5, ELC 5.3(f), ELC 5.3(g), and ELC 5.5(d)).

6 **FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**  
7 **REGARDING RECOMMENDED SANCTION**

8 4. Respondent's conduct in failing to respond to RR's reasonable requests for  
9 information and in failing to complete RR's and KG's work permit applications was knowing.

10 5. Respondent's conduct in failing to cooperate with ODC's grievance investigation was  
11 knowing.

12 6. Both RR and KG were harmed in that their work permits were delayed and they were  
13 uninformed about the status of the asylum application.

14 7. The lawyer discipline system was harmed in that Respondent's conduct impaired  
15 ODC's ability to investigate this matter and ODC expended additional resources to compel  
16 Respondent's cooperation. Respondent's failure to cooperate also reflects poorly on the  
17 profession and diminishes confidence in the legal system.

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

21 4.42 Suspension is generally appropriate when:

22 (a) a lawyer knowingly fails to perform services for a client and causes injury  
23 or potential injury to a client, or

24 (b) a lawyer engages in a pattern of neglect and causes injury or potential  
injury to a client.

1 7.2 Suspension is generally appropriate when a lawyer knowingly engages in  
2 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.

3 9. The following aggravating factors set forth in Section 9.22 of the ABA Standards  
4 apply in this case:

5 (d) multiple offenses;

6 (j) indifference to making restitution.

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

9 11. The following mitigating factors set forth in Section 9.32 of the ABA Standards apply  
10 to this case:

11 (a) absence of a prior disciplinary record;

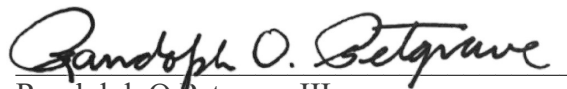
12 (f) inexperience in the practice of law [Respondent was licensed in 2022].

13 12. The aggravating and mitigating factors outweigh the mitigating factors, justifying a  
14 suspension of one-year.

### 15 RECOMMENDATION

16 13. Based on the ABA Standards and the applicable aggravating and mitigating factors,  
17 the Hearing Officer recommends that Respondent be suspended for one year. Respondent should  
18 be required to pay \$600 in restitution to Mary Thomas, the third party who paid Respondent to  
19 prepare the work permits on behalf of RR and KG. Restitution should bear interest at 12 percent  
20 per annum. Reinstatement should be conditioned on full payment of restitution.

21 DATED this 14th day of January, 2026.

22  
23   
24 Randolph O Petgrave III,  
Hearing Officer

**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, Ashley Briana Cuber, at [ashley@elrefugiolaw.com](mailto:ashley@elrefugiolaw.com), on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.



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Clerk to the Disciplinary Board

**FILED**

Oct 16, 2025

Disciplinary  
Board

Docket # 002

DISCIPLINARY BOARD  
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

**ASHLEY BRIANA CUBER,**

Lawyer (Bar No. 59370).

Proceeding No. 25#00032

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 Ashley Briana Cuber was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Washington on May 10, 2022.

**FACTS REGARDING COUNTS 1-3**

2. Respondent is a Washington lawyer practicing immigration law in Colorado.

3. In March 2024, Richard Reyes and Karla Gouveia, a married couple, hired Respondent to file an asylum application and work permits for both Gouveia and Reyes.

1 4. Mary Thomas, a third party who assisted Reyes and Gouveia in their immigration  
2 matter, paid Cuber a total of \$1,295 on behalf of Reyes and Gouveia.

3 5. On May 1, 2024, Respondent filed asylum applications for Gouveia and Gouveia's  
4 minor child.

5 6. Respondent did not file Gouveia's or Reyes's application for work permits.

6 7. During the representation, Reyes made multiple attempts to contact Respondent to  
7 gain information about the case.

8 8. Reyes's attempts to gain information from Respondent were reasonable.

9 9. Respondent never responded to Reyes.

10 10. During the representation, Respondent was evicted from Respondent's office and  
11 abandoned their practice.

12 11. Neither Gouveia nor Reyes received any further contact from Respondent.

13 12. Both Reyes and Gouveia were potentially seriously harmed in that their work  
14 permits were delayed and they were uninformed about the status of the asylum application.

15 **Failure to Cooperate With Grievance Investigation**

16 13. On January 14, 2025, Thomas filed a grievance against Respondent.

17 14. On February 13, 2025, ODC sent Respondent the grievance via email and  
18 requested a written response within 30 days.

19 15. Respondent did not respond.

20 16. On March 25, 2025, ODC emailed Respondent a letter requesting Respondent  
21 respond to the grievance within 10 days.

22 17. Respondent did not respond.

23 18. On April 10, 2025, ODC issued a subpoena duces tecum compelling Respondent's

1 attendance at a video deposition and production of documents relating to Gouveia and Reyes.

2 19. The subpoena was served by regular and certified mail on Respondent's registered  
3 agent for service of process and at Respondent's address on file with the association.

4 20. Respondent failed to appear at the deposition.

5 21. On May 16, 2025, ODC filed a petition for interim suspension against Respondent  
6 for failure to cooperate with a disciplinary investigation under rule 7.2(a)(3) of the Washington  
7 Supreme Court's Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC).

8 22. On May 19, 2025, the Washington Supreme Court ordered Respondent to show  
9 cause why the petition should not be granted.

10 23. Respondent did not respond to the petition or the Court's order to show cause.

11 24. On May 26, 2025, the Washington Supreme Court entered an order suspending  
12 Respondent from the practice of law pending cooperation with ODC's grievance investigation.

13 25. To date, Respondent has not responded to the grievance.

14 26. Respondent's conduct in failing to cooperate with ODC's grievance investigation  
15 was knowing.

16 27. Respondent's license remains suspended.

17 **COUNT 1**

18 28. By failing to respond to Reyes's reasonable requests for information, Respondent  
19 violated RPC 1.4(a) and (b) and/or Colorado Rule of Professional Conduct (CRPC) 1.4(a) and  
20 (b).

21 **COUNT 2**

22 By failing to complete Reyes's and Gouveia's work permit applications, Respondent  
23 violated RPC 1.3 and/or CRPC 1.3.

COUNT 3

29. By failing to respond to ODC’s requests for information and/or by failing to appear at a deposition to which Respondent had been subpoenaed, Respondent violated RPC 8.1(b) and RPC 8.4(l) (by violating ELC 1.5, ELC 5.3(f), ELC 5.3(g), and/or ELC 5.5(d)).

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

Dated this 16th day of October, 2025.

*Francesca D'Angelo*

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Francesca D'Angelo, Bar No. 22979  
Managing Disciplinary Counsel