

*People v. Finch*, 00PDJ079 (consolidated with 00PDJ083, 01PDJ107, 02PDJ011 and 02PDJ016). March 22, 2005. Attorney Regulation. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge approved the parties' Conditional Admission of Misconduct and suspended Respondent Janice M. Finch (Registration No. 12268) from the practice of law for a period of one year and one day, effective April 22, 2005. This proceeding arises out of nearly 20 separate matters. Respondent's misconduct included neglect of entrusted legal matters, failure to communicate with clients and subsequent counsel, misrepresentations to clients, false statements that retainers were non-refundable, mishandling and personal use of client funds, failure to return client files and unearned funds upon request, failure to pay for litigation-related services even after collecting the funds from clients, and failure to timely notify potential client of decision to decline representation. Thus, Respondent violated Colo. RPC 1.3, 1.4(a), 1.15(b), 1.16(d), 8.4(c), and 8.4(d). Respondent's misconduct was caused by a physical and mental disability from which she was suffering, and she has little recollection of these events. Since that time, Respondent has not practiced law, and she has been cooperative and expressed remorse. In addition, she has made a good faith effort to make restitution, payment of which is an express condition of reinstatement. Respondent was also ordered to pay the costs incurred in conjunction with this proceeding.