

## **Curre nt Disc iplinary Issue s in Im m ig ra tio n La w**

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**STATE BAR of TEXAS**

## **STATE BAR OF TEXAS**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the State Bar of Texas is to support the administration of the legal system, assure all citizens equal access to justice, foster high standards of ethical conduct for lawyers, enable its members to better serve their clients and the public, educate the public about the rule of law, and promote diversity in the administration of justice and the practice of law.

## **What is the CDC?**

### **Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office**

- Disciplinary arm of the SBOT
- Fair administration of the disciplinary system; respect and dignity for all
- Regional Offices in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio & Austin
- 32 lawyers and 90 employees; but 400 in volunteers throughout the state to make it all happen

## **Grievances:**

**Most Common Grievances (7,500 total grievances 2014-15):**

**28% Criminal Law (2146)**

**13% Family Law (943)**

**6% Personal Injury (406)**

**3% Immigration (240)**

**Immigration – is catching up and now the 4<sup>th</sup> most common grievance**

## Why Lawyers Lose Their Licenses

- 1. Criminal and amoral behavior
- 2. Impaired Lawyers
  - Center for Professional & Ethics stated that 20% of lawyers will be impaired at some point in their practice
  - 12% of all attorneys are suffering from clinical depression
- 3. Newly licensed lawyers without tools
  - Get a mentor
  - Money screws with your ethics; large student debt

**Rule 1.14(a): A lawyer shall hold funds and other property belonging in whole or in part to clients or third persons that are in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property. . . .**

Funds must be kept in  
a separate account



Operating



Trust

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Title search: Current Disciplinary Issues in Immigration Law

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2016 Immigration and Nationality Law eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law session  
"Current Disciplinary Issues in Immigration Law"