



THE FLORIDA BAR

1200 EDGEWATER DRIVE
ORLANDO, FL 32804-6314

LAWYER REGULATION DEPARTMENT 407/425-54
UPL DEPARTMENT 407/425-04
WWW.FLABAR.ORG

JOHN F. HARKNESS, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 27, 2007

John Dobbs, DC# 0-C00618
Gulf Correctional Institution-Annex
599 Ike Steele Road
Wewahitchka, FL 32465-2433

~~RE: Complaint against Catherine Chien
Case No. 2007-31,230 (09A)~~

Dear Mr. Dobbs:

This is to advise you that, on the basis of a diligent and impartial analysis of all the information available as of this date, The Florida Bar has found no present basis for further inquiry.

Your complaint and letters regarding your criminal defense attorney have been reviewed by The Florida Bar. You complained that Ms. Chien failed to properly prepare a defense on your behalf. You stated that Ms. Chien refused to present the specific arguments you requested, especially in light of your position that your case was one of self defense. You also complained that Ms. Chien did not pursue your particular defense.

Ms. Chien's written response provided a thorough explanation of the manner in which your case was handled. The response detailed the reasonable efforts made to review the discovery in your case and fully discuss case issues with you. Ms. Chien also satisfactorily addressed, in her response, the issues you raised regarding her case strategy and your request for a claim of self defense. It is clear that you are completely dissatisfied with the quality of the legal services you received from Ms. Chien. Nevertheless, an attorney is not required to employ a particular tactic simply because the client has made such a request or demand. Thus, based on the foregoing, as there is insufficient basis for further disciplinary proceedings regarding Ms. Chien's actions, this case is now closed.

Since the bar only has the authority to address questions of ethics, the bar could not address any legal issue about which you may feel concerned. If you have further concerns about any legal issues, please consult with legal counsel of your choice.

This complaint will be purged from the discipline records and the file destroyed one year from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Patricia Ann Toro Savitz
Bar Counsel
RATS/ja

cc: Catherine Chien
Public Defender's Office
435 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 400
Orlando, FL 32801-1526