

1 **Rule ~~14-527~~11-538**. Appointment of trustee to protect clients' interest when ~~L~~Ilawyer  
2 disappears, dies, is suspended or ~~disbarred~~delicensed, or is transferred to disability  
3 status.

4 (a) **Protective appointment of trustee.** If a ~~L~~Ilawyer has ~~disappeared or died~~ or cannot  
5 be located, or if a ~~R~~Respondent has been suspended, ~~or disbarred~~ delicensed, or  
6 transferred to disability status, and if there is evidence that the ~~L~~Lawyer or ~~R~~Respondent  
7 has not complied with the provisions of Rule ~~14-526~~11-570 and no partner, executor, or  
8 other responsible party capable of conducting the ~~L~~Lawyer's or ~~R~~Respondent's affairs is  
9 known to exist, a district judge of the judicial district in which the ~~L~~Lawyer or  
10 ~~R~~Respondent maintained a principal office may, on the OPC's request, appoint a trustee  
11 to inventory the ~~L~~Lawyer's or ~~R~~Respondent's files, notify the ~~L~~Lawyer's or ~~R~~Respondent's  
12 clients, distribute the files to the clients, return unearned fees and other funds, and take  
13 any additional action the judge authorizes.

14 (b) **Confidentiality.** No attorney-client relationship exists between the client and the  
15 trustee except to the extent necessary to maintain and preserve the client's  
16 confidentiality ~~of the client~~. The trustee ~~shall~~ may not disclose any information  
17 contained in the files so inventoried without the consent of the client to whom such files  
18 relate, except as necessary to carry out the court's order ~~of the court~~ making the  
19 appointment.

20 (c) **Immunity.** Any person appointed as a trustee ~~shall~~ has ~~have~~ the immunity granted  
21 by Rule ~~14-513~~11-540.

22 Effective December 15, 2020