

BigLaw Partner Added 'Fictional Hours' to Client Bills, Meriting a 2-Year Suspension

"Massachusetts' top court ruled Thursday that a Duane Morris litigation partner got off too easy when she was suspended for six months for overbilling clients at her prior law firm, saying her actions reflected manifest "dishonesty" and deserved a two-year suspension instead," reports Reuters Legal in *Thomas Reuters' Westlaw Today*.

"The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court overturned a single justice's decision to impose a six-month suspension on Doreen Zankowski, saying her billing practices while at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr showed a "reckless indifference" to what her clients should be charged."

"Justice David Lowy, writing for the 4-0 court, said that by all accounts, Zankowski had worked 'exceptionally hard, was one of the firm's highest revenue producers, and achieved excellent results for her clients.'"

Read the article.