

# Ex-Dentons Extortionist Faces Disciplinary Charges

Bloomberg Law is **reporting** that a former Dentons associate who stole the firm's confidential files and then tried to extort cash and artwork from the firm now faces attorney discipline charges.

The complaint names Michael Bernard Potere, who pleaded guilty and was sentenced to federal prison for unauthorized computer access. The complaint was served July 10 but recently posted. The Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission's alleged ethical violations based on the criminal conduct.

Potere, an associate in Dentons' Los Angeles office from 2015 until June 2017, downloaded numerous confidential firm documents, such as financial reports, documents about partner meetings, client lists, billing information, and recruiting-related information, ARDC said. He then threatened to send the documents to a legal website unless the firm paid him \$210,000, according to reporter **Mindy L. Rattan**.

**Read the Bloomberg Law article.**