Si Bar Court of the State Bar of Califor Hearing Department D Los Angeles D San Francisco

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Counsel for the State Bar	Case number(s)	(for Court's use)
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Bar # 85447		
180 Howard		FILEDKOS
San Francisco CA 94105		
(415) 538-2297	PUBLIC MATTER	AUG 0 9 2004
Counsel for Respondent	kwiktag* 035 115 468	
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Bar# 46131 )		OAN THANGING
523 Octavia		
San Francisco CA 94102		
(415)431-3472	Submitted to 🔀 assigned jud	lge 🗌 settlement judge
In the Matter of	STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSION	NS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND
Julie A. Freese		
	REPROVAL 🛛 PRIVATE	PUBLIC
Bar # 20700 A Member of the State Bar of California	PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTE	Ð
(Respondent)	× ×	

- A. Parties' Acknowledgments:
- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted \_
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court.
- (3) All investigations or proceedings listed by case number in the caption of this stipulation are entirely resolved by this stipulation, and are deemed consolidated. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation and order consist of <u>S</u> pages.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."
- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law."
- (6) No more than 30 days prior to the filing of this stipulation, Respondent has been advised in writing of any pending investigation/proceeding not resolved by this stipulation, except for criminal investigations.
- (7) Payment of Disciplinary Costs-Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & 6140.7. (Check one option only):
  - costs added to membership fee for calendar year following effective date of discipline (public reproval)
  - □ case ineligible for costs (private reproval)
  - A
     costs to be paid in equal amounts for the following membership years:

     2005, 2004, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

     (hardship, special circumstances or other good cause per rule 284, Rules of Procedure)
    - costs waived in part as set forth under "Partial Waiver of Costs"
    - costs entirely waived
- Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, shall be set forth in the text component of this stipulation under specific headings, i.e. "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law."

(8) The parties understand that:

- (a) A private reproval imposed on a respondent as a result of a stipulation approved by the Court prior to initiation of a State Bar Court proceeding is part of the respondent's official State Bar membership records, but is not disclosed in response to public Inquires and is not reported on the State Bar's web page. The record of the proceeding in which such a private reproval was imposed is not available to the public except as part of the record of any subsequent proceeding in which it is introduced as evidence of a prior record of discipline under the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar.
- (b) A private reproval imposed on a respondent after initiation of a State Bar Court proceeding is part of the respondent's official State Bar membership records, is disclosed in response to public inquiries and is reported as a record of public discipline on the State Bar's web page.
- (c) A public reproval imposed on a respondent is publicly available as part of the respondent's official State Bar membership records, is disclosed in response to public inquiries and is reported as a record of public discipline on the State Bar's web page.
- B. Aggravating Circumstances [for definition, see Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct, standard 1.2(b)]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are required.
- Prior record of discipline [see standard 1.2(f)] (1)State Bar Court case # of prior case \_\_\_\_\_ (a) Date prior discipline effective (b) (C) Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations: (d) degree of prior discipline (e) If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below or under "Prior Discipline".

- (2) Dishonesty: Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by or followed by bad faith, dishonesty, concealment, overreaching or other violations of the State Bar Act or Rules of Professional Conduct.
- (3) Trust Violation: Trust funds or property were involved and Respondent refused or was unable to account to the client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or property.
- (4) X Harm: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public or the administration of justice.

- (5) Indifference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the consequences of his or her misconduct.
- (6) Lack of Cooperation: Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of his/her misconduct or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation or proceedings.
- (7) Multiple/Pattern of Misconduct: Respondent's current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing or demonstrates a pattern of misconduct.
- (8)  $\Box$  No aggravating circumstances are involved.

Additional aggravating circumstances:

- C. Mitigating Circumstances [see standard 1.2(e)]. Facts supporting mitigating circumstances are required.
- (1) X No Prior Discipline: Respondent has no prior record of discipline over-many years of practice coupled with present misconduct which is not deemed serious.
- (2) 🗋 No Harm: Respondent did not harm the client or person who was the object of the misconduct.
- (3) X Cander/Cooperation: Respondent displayed spontaneous candor and cooperation to the victims of his/ her misconduct and to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation and proceedings. Respondent's cooperation is evidenced by this stipulation.
- (4) C Remorse: Respondent promptly took objective steps spontaneously demonstrating remorse and recognition of the wrongdoing, which steps were designed to timely atone for any consequences of his/her misconduct.
- (5) Restitution: Respondent paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_\_ in restitution to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in restitution to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ without the threat or force of disciplinary, civil or criminal proceedings.
- (6) Delay: These disciplinary proceedings were excessively delayed. The delay is not attributable to Respondent and the delay prejudiced him/her.
- (7) 🔲 Good Faith: Respondent acted in good faith.
- (8) Emotional/Physical Difficulties: At the time of the stipulated act or acts of professional misconduct Respondent suffered extreme emotional difficulties or physical disabilities which expert testimony would establish was directly responsible for the misconduct. The difficulties or disabilities were not the product of any illegal conduct by the member, such as illegal drug or substance abuse, and Respondent no longer suffers from such difficulties or disabilities.
- (9) Severe Financial Stress: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered from severe financial stress which resulted from circumstances not reasonably foreseeable or which were beyond his/her control and which were directly responsible for the misconduct.
- (10) Tramily Problems: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered extreme difficulties in his/her personal life which were other than emotional or physical in nature.
- (11) X Good Character: Respondent's good character is attested to by a wide range of references in the legal and general communities who are aware of the full extent of his/her misconduct. The State Bar received numerous letters, including ones from law professors and c (stipulation form approved by SBC Executive Committee 10/16/00) bank ruptay judge. Reprovals

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(12)	Rehabilitation: Considerat. Time	has passed since the acts of professional	misconduct occurred followed
• •	by convincing proof of subsequent		

(13)  $\square$  No mitigating circumstances are involved.

Additional mitigating circumstances:

	D.	Discipline:
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(1)		Private 1	reprovo	I (check applicable conditions, if any, below)
		(a)		Approved by the Court prior to initiation of the State Bar Court proceedings (no public disclosure).
or		(b)		Approved by the Court after initiation of the State Bar Court proceedings (public disclosure).
<u>or</u> (2)	X	Public re	eproval	(check applicable conditions, if any, below)
E. C	conditions	Attachec	d to Rej	proval:
(1)		Respon	ident sh	all comply with the conditions attached to the reproval for a period of
(2)				ndition period attached to the reproval, Respondent shall comply with the provisions ar Act and Rules of Professional Conduct.
(3)		the Prot	pation L r addre	days of any change, Respondent shall report to the Membership Records Office and to Init, all changes of information, including current office address and telephone number, ss for State Bar purposes, as prescribed by section 6002.1 of the Business and Profes-
(4)		10, and dent she Conduc would c	d Octob all state ct, and cover le	all submit written quarterly reports to the Probation Unit on each January 10, April 10, July ber 10 of the condition period attached to the reproval. Under penalty of perjury, respon- e whether respondent has complied with the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional all conditions of the reproval during the preceding calendar quarter. If the first report ss than thirty (30) days, that report shall be submitted on the next following quarter date extended period.
			(20) day	all quarterly reports, a final report, containing the same information, is due no earlier than ys before the last day of the condition period and no later than the last day of the od.

(5)		Respondent shall be Gauggned a probation monitor. Respondent shall promptly review the terms and conditions of probation with the probation monitor to establish a manner and schedule of compliance. During the period of probation, respondent shall furnish such reports as may be requested, in addition to quarterly reports required to be submitted to the Probation Unit. Respondent shall cooperate fully with the monitor.				
(6)		Subject to assertion of applicable privileges, Respondent shall answer fully, promptly and truthfully any inquiries of the Probation Unit of the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel and any probation monitor assigned under these conditions which are directed to Respondent personally or in writing relating to whether Respondent is complying or has complied with the conditions attached to the reproval.				
(7)		Within one (1) year of the effective date of the discipline herein, respondent shall provide to the Probation Unit satisfactory proof of attendance of the Ethics School and passage of the test given at the end of that session.				
(8)		No Ethics School ordered. Respondent resides outside California (in New York City), is unable to attend Ethics School, but recently Dassed the New York Bar. 1 Respondent shall comply with all conditions of probation imposed in the underlying criminal matter and shall so declare under penalty of perjury in conjunction with any quarterly report required to be filed with the Probation Unit.				
(9)		Respondent shall provide proof of passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE"), administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to the Probation Unit of the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel within one year of the effective date of the reproval. No MPRE ordered.				
(10)		The following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:				
		Substance Abuse Conditions 🛛 Law Office Management Conditions				
		Medical Conditions   Financial Conditions				
<i>(</i> <b>7 b</b> ).	_					

(11) Other conditions negotiated by the parties:

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#### ATTACHMENT TO

## STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF: Julie A. Freese

CASE NUMBER(S): 01-O-2042-JMR

## FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

#### Facts

1. On November 20, 1998, respondent accepted employment at the law firm of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison ("the Firm").

2. On October 25, 1999, respondent signed an Employee Acknowledgment form stating that she had read the Firm's Statement of Policy Regarding Client Information, Inside Trading and Trading in Client Securities.

3. On February 29, 2000, respondent signed an Insider Trading and Investment Policies Acknowledgment and Certification ("acknowledgment form") acknowledging that she had read and understood the Firm's insider trading and investment policies set forth in its Risk Management Manual. The acknowledgment form stated in pertinent part that "Compliance with these policies in their entirety is critical and mandatory."

4. On January 2, 2001, respondent again signed the acknowledgment form, in accordance with the Firm's requirement that the acknowledgment form be submitted annually.

5. In September 2000 respondent was employed as an attorney at the Firm and was working on a merger between the Firm's client, Cobalt Networks, Inc. ("Cobalt"), and Sun Microsystems, Inc. ("Sun").

6. On September 17, 2000, during a conversation with a family friend, Jim Bennette, and an acquaintance, Matthew Joel Mesplou ("Mesplou"), a "day trader," respondent told them that she was an attorney at the Firm involved in working on a merger and that "Sun really has us over a barrel" or words to that effect. Mesplou told respondent "I think you know what merger you are talking about" or words to that effect.

7. On September 18, 2000, using the information revealed to him by respondent, and information he already possessed, Mesplou purchased \$1,182,687.20 worth of Cobalt stock and call options.

8. On September 19, 2000, the merger between Cobalt and Sun took place and Cobalt's share price significantly increased. On the same day, Mesplou sold his Cobalt stock and options for a profit of \$411,696.67.

9. During the subsequent Securities and Exchange Commission investigation of Mesplou, he eventually admitted that respondent was the source of his information on the Sun-Cobalt merger. Mesplou was convicted of violation of 18 United States Code section 1001 - making false statements to the SEC – and was required to disgorge his profits, as well as pay a fine, as part of his sentence.

Attachment Page 1

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### Conclusion of Law

By revealing to Mesplou the non-public, confidential information that Sun was one of the companies involved in a merger, respondent failed to preserve the secrets of her client in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6068, subdivision (e).

### **PENDING PROCEEDINGS**

The disclosure date referred to on page one, paragraph A.(6), was June 29, 2004.

### **ESTIMATED COSTS**

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of June 29, 2004, the estimated prosecution costs in this matter are approximately \$4,794.75. Respondent acknowledges that this figure is an estimate only and that it does not include State Bar Court costs which will be included in any final cost assessment. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

The dipulated facts and disposition   IMPOSED,	n are APPROVED AS MODIFIED	as set forth below, and th	e REPROVAL
dismissal of counts/charges, if any,	-		
Finding that the stipulation protection be served by any conditions atta	iched to the reproval,	IT IS ORDERED that th	
	ORDER	•	
Jole 8, 2004 Sheni	B. Mc Litcher	Sherrie B.	Me.Let
	Counsel's signature	print name	
7-1-04	-	Down (1)	<u>in burg</u>
	signature	print name	Freese

JUN-29-2004 14:22 63004 Date

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538 2214 5 Res signature ident's

Respondent's Counsel's signature

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be se	ng that the stipulation protects the pu prved by any conditions attached to ssal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANT	the reproval, IT IS	ORDERED that the requested	
X	The stipulated facts and disposition are APPR	oved and the reprov	VAL IMPOSED.	
	The stipulated facts and disposition are APPRO IMPOSED,	ved AS MODIFIED as se	et torin below, and the REPROVAL	
The r	attor are bound by the stipulation as	noroved unless:	1) a motion to withdraw or	
The parties are bound by the stipulation as approved unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed within 15 days after service of this order, is granted; or 2) this court modifies or further modifies the approved stipulation. (See rule 135(b), Rules of Procedure.) Otherwise the stipulation shall be effective 15 days after service of this order.				
Failur sepai	e to comply with any conditions attach rate proceeding for willful breach of rule	ed to this reproval $p = 1-110$ , Rules of Pr	may constitute cause for a rotessional Conduct.	
Date	<u>8/9/04</u> Ju	dge of the State	Kanke	
			Bassan Sittati	

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** [Rule 62(b), Rules Proc.; Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of San Francisco, on August 9, 2004, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

### STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

[X] by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at San Francisco, California, addressed as follows:

## DORON WEINBERG 523 OCTAVIA ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102

[X] by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

# SHERRIE MCLETCHIE, Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on August 9, 2004.

Laine Silber Case Administrator State Bar Court