



### **PUBLIC MATTER**

STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO

# STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA HEARING DEPARTMENT – SAN FRANCISCO

In the Matter of	) Case Nos	s. 06-C-12640 [06-F-14002]
BRET DODGE BECHTOLD,	) (5	S155018)
Former Member No. 184692,	J	RE DISCIPLINARY COSTS AND SECURITY FUNDS SUMS DUE
A Former Member of the State Bar.	)	
	) )	

#### TO ALL PARTIES AND COUNSEL IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER:

On January 28, 2010, Bret Dodge Bechtold (Bechtold) filed a petition for an extension of time to pay \$1,636 in disciplinary costs associated with California Supreme Court case No. S155018 (State Bar Court case No. 06-C-12640). Bechtold's petition also requests an extension of time to comply with the Client Security Fund Commission (Commission) assessment of \$2,218.23. Bechtold submitted a financial statement in support of his petition. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 282(b)(2).)

On February 12, 2010, the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel (State Bar), by Deputy Trial Counsel Mark Hartman, filed a response to Bechtold's petition. The State Bar argues that without a judgment having been entered against Bechtold, the State Bar Court has no jurisdiction to grant his request for an extension to pay the Client Security Fund (CSF) assessment.

The State Bar, however, acknowledging Bechtold's "limited income and resources," as reflected in his petition and a State Bar investigation, which revealed that Bechtold has no assets, does not oppose a three-year extension of time to pay the \$1,636 disciplinary costs.

After carefully considering all issues and evidence set forth in Bechtold's petition and the response filed by the State Bar, the court issues the following ORDER.

#### **ORDER**

1. The State Bar Court does not have jurisdiction to address payments ordered by the Client Security Fund Commission. The Commission's decisions may be reviewed in superior court pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure, section 1094.5 by filing a request for review no more than 90 days after the Commission's decision was served. (Rule 3.450, Rules Proc. of State Bar, Client Security Fund Matters.)

Accordingly, for lack of jurisdiction, the court **DENIES** Bret Dodge Bechtold's request for an extension of time to comply with the CSF assessment

2. Bret Dodge Bechtold, however, has established sufficient financial hardship for this court to **GRANT** his request for an extension of time to pay the \$1,636 disciplinary costs that he has been assessed. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6086.10, subd. (c); Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 282.)

Accordingly, good cause appearing, the time in which Bechtold must pay the \$1,636 disciplinary costs associated with Supreme Court case No. S155018 is extended as follows: Beginning July 1, 2010, Bechtold must pay a minimum of \$102.25 per calendar quarter for the next four years until the entire \$1,636 is paid. These quarterly installment payments are due no later than the 10th day of each January, April, July, and October. Thus, Bechtold's first installment payment is due no later than July 10, 2010.

The court further **ORDERS** that Bechtold submit his payments directly to the State Bar's Membership Billing Office in San Francisco and that he promptly submit proof of each payment to the State Bar's Office of Probation in Los Angeles.

Finally, the court **ORDERS** that if Bechtold fails to pay any installment of disciplinary costs within the time provided herein or as may be modified by the State Bar Court pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 6086.10, subdivision (c), the remaining unpaid balance of the costs is due immediately unless relief has been granted under the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 286). The payment of costs remains enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.

Dated: March 15, 2010

LUCY ARMENDARIZ

Judge of the State Bar Court

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rule 62(b), Rules Proc.; Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. 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 March 16, 2010, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

## ORDER RE DISCIPLINARY COSTS AND CLIENT SECURITY FUNDS SUMS DUE

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

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

BRET D. BECHTOLD 1010 WILD OAK CT CONCORD, CA 94521

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

MARK HARTMAN, Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on March 16, 2010.

Laine Silber

Case Administrator State Bar Court