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**State Bar Court of California**

**PUBLIC MATTER**

**Hearing Department**

**Los Angeles**

**PROGRAM FOR RESPONDENTS WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES**

Counsel For The State Bar

**MONIQUE T. MILLER**  
**DEPUTY TRIAL COUNSEL**  
1149 South Hill Street  
Los Angeles, California 90015-2299  
213-765-1486

Case Number (s)  
**08-C-10827**

(for Court's use)

**FILED**

**JAN 14 2010**

**STATE BAR COURT  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
LOS ANGELES**

Bar # **212469**

In Pro Per Respondent

**MICHAEL PATRICK RIDLEY**  
Good Wildman Hegness et al  
5000 Campus Dr  
Newport Beach, California 92660-2181

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Submitted to: **Program Judge**

Bar # **54409**

In the Matter Of:  
**MICHAEL PATRICK RIDLEY**

**STIPULATION RE FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Bar # **54409**

A Member of the State Bar of California  
(Respondent)

PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED

**Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, must be set forth in an attachment to this stipulation under specific headings, e.g., "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law," "Supporting Authority," etc.**

**A. Parties' Acknowledgments:**

- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted **December 14, 1972**.
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition (to be attached separately) are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court. However, if Respondent is not accepted into the Lawyer Assistance Program, this stipulation will be rejected and will not be binding on the Respondent or the State Bar.
- (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, except for Probation Revocation proceedings. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation consists of 7 pages, excluding the order.
- (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".

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- (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 and will pay timely any disciplinary costs imposed in this proceeding.

**B. Aggravating Circumstances [for definition, see Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct, standard 1.2(b)]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are required.**

- (1)  **Prior record of discipline** [see standard 1.2(f)]
- (a)  State Bar Court case # of prior case **02-C-15965 and 04-C-14735**
- (b)  Date prior discipline effective **April 1, 2005**
- (c)  Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations: **Business and Professions Code Sections 6101 and 6102**
- (d)  Degree of prior discipline **Public Reproval**
- (e)  If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below:
- (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)  **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)  **No aggravating circumstances** are involved.

**Additional aggravating circumstances:**

**C. Mitigating Circumstances [see standard 1.2(e)]. Facts supporting mitigating circumstances are required.**

- (1)  **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)  **Candor/Cooperation:** Respondent displayed spontaneous candor and cooperation with the victims of his/her misconduct and to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation and proceedings.
- (4)  **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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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)  **Family 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)  **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.
- (12)  **Rehabilitation:** Considerable time has passed since the acts of professional misconduct occurred followed by convincing proof of subsequent rehabilitation.
- (13)  **No mitigating circumstances** are involved.

**Additional mitigating circumstances:**

**ATTACHMENT TO**  
**STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION**

IN THE MATTER OF:       MICHAEL PATRICK RIDLEY

CASE NUMBER(S):       08-C-10827

**PARTIES ARE BOUND BY THE STIPULATED FACTS:**

The parties intend to be and are hereby bound by the stipulated facts contained in this stipulation. This stipulation as to facts and the facts so stipulated shall independently survive even if the conclusions of law and/or stipulated disposition set forth herein are rejected or changed in any manner whatsoever by the Hearing Department or the Review Department of the State Bar Court, or by the California Supreme Court.

**WAIVER OF FINALITY OF CONVICTION (rule 607):**

Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California, rule 607, the parties stipulate that the Court may decide the issues as to the discipline to be imposed even if the criminal convictions discussed herein are not final.

Respondent waives finality of his conviction and consents to the State Bar Court's acceptance of this Stipulation as to facts, conclusions of law and discipline in all respects as if the conviction was final, including the entry of findings consistent with this Stipulation, imposition of discipline, or entry of a recommendation as to the degree of the discipline to be imposed.

Respondent waives any right to challenge on the basis of a lack of finality of his conviction the State Bar Court's recommendation of discipline, if any, and the actual imposition of discipline, if any, by the State Bar Court or the California Supreme Court.

Respondent further waives any right he may have to seek review or reconsideration on the basis of any relief he may receive as a result of any appeal of, or petition regarding, the criminal conviction underlying any recommendation of and/or actual imposition of discipline by the State Bar Court or the California Supreme Court.

## STIPULATION AS TO FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that he is culpable of violations of the specified statutes and/or Rules of Professional Conduct, or has otherwise committed acts of misconduct warranting discipline, as follows:

### Stipulated facts and circumstances for Case No. 08-C-10827

1. On June 8, 2007, at about 1:30 p.m., in Newport Beach, California, officers were dispatched to Ralph's parking lot in response to a call reporting that an intoxicated male had just purchased more alcohol and left the store to get into his car. Upon entering the parking lot, the officers identified the subject's vehicle, followed it, then conducted a traffic stop after observing the vehicle crossing the limit line of a stop sign to stop in the middle of the intersection. At the stop, Respondent's identity as the driver and owner of the vehicle was confirmed. Respondent displayed strong objective signs of being under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested for CVC 23152(a) and (b) (D.U.I) and transported to the Irvine Police station.

2. At the Irvine Police station, Respondent had his blood drawn, indicating a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08% or greater.

3. On June 12, 2007, a complaint was filed in Orange County Superior Court case number 07HM04803, entitled *State of California v. Michael Patrick Ridley* consisting of the following violations:

Count One: Vehicle Code section 23152(a) [driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs with two priors], a misdemeanor; and

Count Two: Vehicle Code section 23223(a) [driver in possession of open container in motor vehicle], an infraction.

Further Allegations: it was further alleged that Respondent was convicted of violating (i) Vehicle Code section 23103.5, on April 1, 2003, in Orange County Superior Court case no. 02HM07344 and (ii) Vehicle Code sections 23152(a) and (b), on December 17, 2004, in Orange County Superior Court case no. 04HM05615.

4. On February 6, 2008, Respondent pled guilty to both counts, Vehicle Code section 23152(a) [DUI with two priors], a misdemeanor, and Vehicle Code section 23223(a) [driver in possession of open container in motor vehicle], an infraction.

5. On the same day, Respondent was sentenced to five years of informal probation with conditions to pay fine and restitution of \$590; driver's license revoked for 36 months; install ignition interlock device in vehicle for 5 years; attend and complete 18 months of multiple offender alcohol program; serve 365 days in jail with 125 days stayed on condition that Respondent attend 12 months of substance abuse program; attend and complete MADD program.

**Conclusions of Law for Case No. 08-C-10827**

6. The facts and circumstances surrounding Respondent's conviction, including his wilful violation of Vehicle Code section 23152(a) [DUI with two priors], a misdemeanor, and Vehicle Code section 23223(a) [driver in possession of open container in motor vehicle], an infraction, may not involve moral turpitude, but do involve other misconduct warranting discipline pursuant to Business and Professions Code, sections 6101 and 6102.

**PENDING PROCEEDINGS**

The disclosure date referred to, on page one, paragraph A.(7), was July 22, 2008.

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In the Matter of <b>Michael Patrick Ridley</b> Bar # 54409	Case number(s): <b>08-C-10827</b>
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### SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES

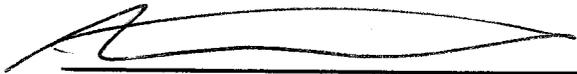
By their signatures below, the parties and their counsel, as applicable, signify their agreement with each of the recitations and each of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation Re Facts and Conclusions of Law.

Respondent enters into this stipulation as a condition of his/her participation in the Program. Respondent understands that he/she must abide by all terms and conditions of Respondent's Program Contract.

If the Respondent is not accepted into the Program or does not sign the Program contract, this Stipulation will be rejected and will not be binding on Respondent or the State Bar.

\*\* If the Respondent is accepted into the Program, upon Respondent's ~~successful completion of or~~ <sup>acceptance into</sup> termination from the Program, this Stipulation will be filed and the specified level of discipline for successful completion of or termination from the Program as set forth in the State Bar Court's Statement Re: Discipline shall be imposed or recommended to the Supreme Court.

7/27/2008  
Date

  
Respondent's Signature

Michael Patrick Ridley  
Print Name

July 30, 2008  
Date

Monique T. Miller  
Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature

Monique T. Miller  
Print Name

\*\* Rule 803(b), Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California, effective July 1, 2008.

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In the Matter Of  
**Michael Patfrick Ridley**  
Bar #54409

Case Number(s):  
**08-C-10827**

### ORDER

Finding the stipulation to be fair to the parties and that it adequately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the requested dismissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED without prejudice, and:

- The stipulation as to facts and conclusions of law is APPROVED.
- The stipulation as to facts and conclusions of law is APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below.
- All court dates in the Hearing Department are vacated.

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; or 3) Respondent is not accepted for participation in the Program or does not sign the Program Contract. (See rule 135(b) and 802(b), Rules of Procedure.)

1-18-10

Date



Judge of the State Bar Court

**RICHARD A. PLATEL**

**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 Los Angeles, on January 15, 2010, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

**STIPULATIONS RE FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW  
(08-C-10827 & 08-H-13057)**

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

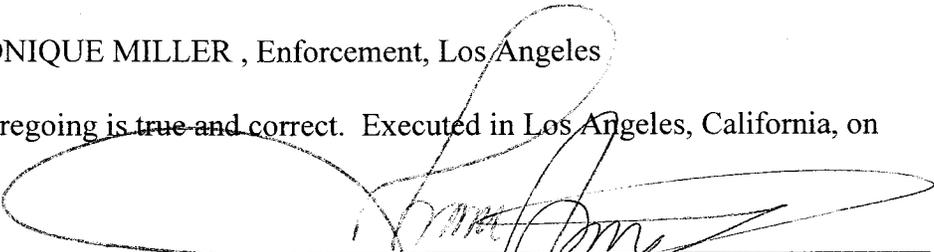
- by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

MICHAEL PATRICK RIDLEY  
LAW OFC MICHAEL P RIDLEY  
2030 MAIN ST STE 1300  
IRVINE, CA 92614

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

MONIQUE MILLER , Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on January 15, 2010.



Johnnie Lee Smith  
Case Administrator  
State Bar Court