

ORIGINAL

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**State Bar Court of California**  
**Hearing Department**  
**Los Angeles**  
**REPROVAL**

PUBLIC MATTER

Counsel For The State Bar  Cindy McCaughey, DTC Office of Chief Trial Counsel 1149 South Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90015 213/765-1491  Bar # 222126	Case Number(s): 09-O-11947  <b>NOT FOR PUBLICATION</b>	For Court use only  <div align="center"> <b>FILED</b>   <b>JAN 24 2011</b>          STATE BAR COURT          CLERK'S OFFICE          LOS ANGELES       </div>
In Pro Per Respondent  Juan Carlos Lozano 3901 Sonoma Springs Ave., Apt. 1705 Las Cruces, NM 88011 619/647-9129  Bar # 241930	Submitted to: <b>Assigned Judge</b>  STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING	
In the Matter of: Juan Carlos Lozano  Bar # 241930  A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)	<b>PRIVATE REPROVAL</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> 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 March 23, 2006.
- (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 consists of 10 pages, not including the order.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."

(Effective January 1, 2011)



- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law".
- (6) The parties must include supporting authority for the recommended level of discipline under the heading "Supporting Authority."
- (7) 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.
- (8) Payment of Disciplinary Costs—Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & 6140.7. (Check one option only):
- ☐ Costs are added to membership fee for calendar year following effective date of discipline (public reproof).
  - ☒ Case ineligible for costs (private reproof).
  - ☐ Costs are to be paid in equal amounts prior to February 1 for the following membership years: (Hardship, special circumstances or other good cause per rule 5.132, Rules of Procedure.) If Respondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar Court, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately.
  - ☐ Costs are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs".
  - ☐ Costs are entirely waived.
- (9) The parties understand that:
- (a) ☐ A private reproof 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 inquiries and is not reported on the State Bar's web page. The record of the proceeding in which such a private reproof 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 reproof 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 reproof 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.**

- (1) ☐ **Prior record of discipline** [see standard 1.2(f)]
- (a) ☐ State Bar Court case # of prior case
  - (b) ☐ Date prior discipline effective
  - (c) ☐ Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations:
  - (d) ☐ Degree of prior discipline

(Do not write above this line.)

- (e) ☐ If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below or a separate attachment entitled "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) ☐ **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:**

(see attached)

**D. Discipline:**

- (1) ☒ **Private reproof (check applicable conditions, if any, below)**
- (a) ☐ Approved by the Court prior to initiation of the State Bar Court proceedings (no public disclosure).
- (b) ☒ Approved by the Court after initiation of the State Bar Court proceedings (public disclosure).
- or
- (2) ☐ **Public reproof (Check applicable conditions, if any, below)**

**E. Conditions Attached to Reproval:**

- (1) ☒ Respondent must comply with the conditions attached to the reproof for a period of one (1) year.
- (2) ☒ During the condition period attached to the reproof, Respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act and Rules of Professional Conduct.
- (3) ☒ Within ten (10) days of any change, Respondent must report to the Membership Records Office of the State Bar and to the Office of Probation of the State Bar of California ("Office of Probation"), all changes of information, including current office address and telephone number, or other address for State Bar purposes, as prescribed by section 6002.1 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (4) ☒ Within thirty (30) days from the effective date of discipline, Respondent must contact the Office of Probation and schedule a meeting with Respondent's assigned probation deputy to discuss these terms and conditions of probation. Upon the direction of the Office of Probation, Respondent must meet with the probation deputy either in-person or by telephone. During the period of probation, Respondent must promptly meet with the probation deputy as directed and upon request.
- (5) ☒ Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation on each January 10, April 10, July 10, and October 10 of the condition period attached to the reproof. Under penalty of perjury, Respondent must state whether Respondent has complied with the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and all conditions of the reproof during the preceding calendar quarter. Respondent

must also state in each report whether there are any proceedings pending against him or her in the State Bar Court and if so, the case number and current status of that proceeding. If the first report would cover less than 30 (thirty) days, that report must be submitted on the next following quarter date, and cover the extended period.

In addition to all quarterly reports, a final report, containing the same information, is due no earlier than twenty (20) days before the last day of the condition period and no later than the last day of the condition period.

- (6) ☐ Respondent must be assigned a probation monitor. Respondent must 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 must furnish such reports as may be requested, in addition to the quarterly reports required to be submitted to the Office of Probation. Respondent must cooperate fully with the monitor.
- (7) ☒ Subject to assertion of applicable privileges, Respondent must answer fully, promptly and truthfully any inquiries of the Office of Probation 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 reprobation.
- (8) ☒ Within one (1) year of the effective date of the discipline herein, Respondent must provide to the Office of Probation satisfactory proof of attendance at a session of the Ethics School, and passage of the test given at the end of that session.
- ☐ No Ethics School recommended. Reason: .
- (9) ☐ Respondent must comply with all conditions of probation imposed in the underlying criminal matter and must so declare under penalty of perjury in conjunction with any quarterly report to be filed with the Office of Probation.
- (10) ☒ Respondent must provide proof of passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE"), administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to the Office of Probation within one year of the effective date of the reprobation.
- ☐ No MPRE recommended. Reason: .
- (11) ☐ The following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse Conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Office Management Conditions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Conditions         | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Conditions             |

**F. Other Conditions Negotiated by the Parties:**

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

**In the Matter of: Juan Carlos Lozano**  
**Case Number(s): 09-O-11947**

**PENDING PROCEEDINGS**

The disclosure date referred to on page two, paragraph (A)(7) is not applicable.

**FACTS:**

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that he is culpable of violations of the specified Rules of Professional Conduct and Business & Professions Code sections as follows:

1. In or about November 2007, Linda Melendez ("Melendez") employed Respondent to represent her in a contract dispute with her former landlord. Respondent agreed to represent Melendez on a contingency fee basis. Respondent agreed to investigate and litigate the matter as appropriate. Respondent failed to perform any services of value for Melendez.
2. Between December 2007 and December 2008, Melendez made numerous attempts to contact Respondent to ascertain the status of her case. Melendez spoke to Respondent twice during this year, once in December 2007 and once in March 2008. During these phone conversations, Respondent assured Melendez he was working on the matter and that he was still her counsel.
3. On or about December 22, 2008 Melendez sent a certified letter to Respondent, attempting to get information about her case. Respondent did not respond to Melendez' letter or otherwise communicate with her at any time after March 2008.
4. On or about February 11, 2009, Melendez submitted a complaint to the State Bar regarding Respondent's conduct in her case.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

1. By failing to take any steps to resolve Melendez' dispute or to advise her regarding her legal options, Respondent intentionally, recklessly or repeatedly failed to perform legal services with competence in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3-110(A).
2. By not responding to Melendez' telephone calls and letter, Respondent failed to respond promptly to reasonable status inquiries of a client for which he had agreed to provide legal services in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6068(m).

3. By terminating his representation of Melendez without informing her, Respondent failed, upon termination of employment, to take reasonable steps to avoid reasonably foreseeable prejudice to his client in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 3-700(A)(2).

### **WAIVER OF VARIANCE BETWEEN NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES AND STIPULATED FACTS AND CULPABILITY**

The parties waive any variance between the Notice of Disciplinary Charges filed on November 24, 2010, and the facts and/or conclusions of law contained in this stipulation. Additionally, the parties waive the issuance of an amended Notice of Disciplinary Charges. The parties further waive the right to a formal hearing on any charge not included in the pending Notice of Disciplinary Charges.

### **DISMISSALS**

The parties respectfully request that the Court dismiss the following alleged violations in the interest of justice:

Case No. 09-O-11947                      Count Four      Bus. & Prof. Code 6068(i)

### **ADDITIONAL MITIGATING FACTORS**

During the period of time the stipulated acts occurred, Respondent was experiencing difficulties with an unrelated third party whose conduct became so threatening to Respondent's physical well-being that he subsequently transitioned out of the practice of law in order to pursue a career in an entirely different field.

In early 2008, Respondent re-located to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and later to, Las Cruces, New Mexico. During that time, Respondent maintained the rent on a small storage location within an "executive suite" office complex where signatures were provided to accept certified mail. Respondent had a good faith, albeit mistaken, belief that his mail would be forwarded to him from that location to his new addresses. Upon learning of the current disciplinary charges pending with the State Bar, Respondent immediately made contact and demonstrated remorse and a strong desire to expediently resolve the matter.

### **AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE**

#### **STANDARDS FOR ATTORNEY SANCTIONS**

To determine the appropriate level of discipline, the standards provide guidance. *Drociak v. State Bar* (1991) 52 Cal.3d 1085; *In the Matter of Sampson*, 3 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 119. A disciplinary recommendation must be consistent with the discipline in similar proceedings. *See*

*Snyder v. State Bar* (1990) 49 Cal.3d 1302. Moreover, the recommended discipline must rest upon a balanced consideration of relevant factors. *In the Matter of Sampson*, 3 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 119.

Pursuant to Standard 1.3 of the Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct:

The primary purposes of disciplinary proceedings conducted by the State Bar of California and of sanctions imposed upon a finding or acknowledgment of a member's professional misconduct are the protection of the public, the courts and the legal profession; the maintenance of high professional standards by attorneys and the preservation of public confidence in the legal profession. Rehabilitation of a member is a permissible object of a sanction imposed upon the member but only if the imposition of rehabilitative sanctions is consistent with the above-stated primary purposes of sanctions for professional misconduct.

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Pursuant to Standard 1.5 of the Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct:

Reasonable duties or conditions fairly related to the acts of professional misconduct and surrounding circumstances found or acknowledged by the member may be added to a recommendation or suspension or; pursuant to rule 9.19, California Rules of Court, to a reproof. Said duties may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

1.5(b): a requirement that the member takes and passes an examination in professional responsibility;

1.5(d): a requirement that the member undertake educational or rehabilitative work at his or her own expense regarding one or more fields of substantive law or law office management;

1.5(f): any other duty or condition consistent with the purposes of imposing a sanction for professional misconduct as set forth in standard 1.3.

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Pursuant to Standard 2.4 of the Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct:

Culpability of a member of willfully failing to perform services in an individual matter or matters not demonstrating a pattern of misconduct or culpability of a member of willfully failing to communicate with a client shall result in reproof or suspension depending upon the extent of the misconduct and the degree of harm to the client.

Pursuant to Standard 2.6 of the Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct:

Culpability of a member of a violation of any of the following provisions of the Business and Professions Code shall result in disbarment or suspension depending



on the gravity of the offense or the harm, if any, to the victim, with due regard to the purposes of imposing discipline set forth in Standard 1.3: ... (a) Sections 6067 and 6068 ... .

Pursuant to Standard 2.10 of the Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct:

Culpability of a member of a violation of any provision of the Business and Professions Code not specified in these standards or a willful violation of any Rule of Professional Conduct not specified in these standards shall result in reproof or suspension according to the gravity of the offense or the harm, if any, to the victim, with due regard to the purposes of imposing discipline set forth in Standard 1.3.

Reproof is the appropriate sanction in this matter. The parties submit a deviation from Standard 2.6 is appropriate in this case in that the conduct involved a single client and the conduct did not result in harm to the client. Moreover, Respondent is not currently practicing law in California, but is instead enrolled as a full-time graduate student while working as both a teaching assistant and football coach at a New Mexico university. Upon learning of the charges, Respondent has demonstrated a degree of remorse and cooperation which indicates he does not pose a significant future threat to the public or clients.

The parties further submit that the intent and goals of Standard 1.3 are met in this matter with the imposition of Private Reproof with those conditions articulated herein.

(Do not write above this line.)

In the Matter of:  
Juan Carlos Lozano

Case number(s):  
09-O-11947

### 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, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition.

01/13/2011

Date



Respondent's Signature

Juan Carlos Lozano

Print Name

1/18/2011

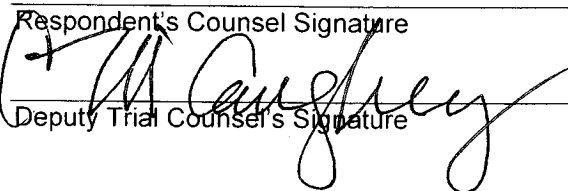
Date

Respondent's Counsel Signature

Print Name

1/18/2011

Date



Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature

Cindy McCaughey

Print Name

(Do not write above this line.)

In the Matter of:  
Juan Carlos Lozano

Case Number(s):  
09-O-11947

### REPROVAL ORDER

Finding that the stipulation protects the public and that the interests of Respondent will be served by any conditions attached to the reproof, IT IS ORDERED that the requested dismissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED without prejudice, and:

- ☒ The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AND THE REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- ☐ The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- ☒ 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. (See rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Procedure.) **Otherwise the stipulation shall be effective 15 days after service of this order.**

**Failure to comply with any conditions attached to this reproof may constitute cause for a separate proceeding for willful breach of rule 1-110, Rules of Professional Conduct.**

Date

1/21/11

  
Judge of the State Bar Court  
**RICHARD A. HONN**

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); 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 24, 2011, 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:

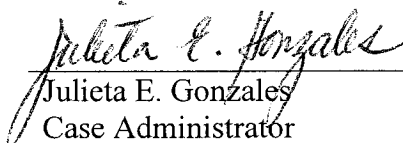
- ☒ by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

JUAN C LOZANO ESQ  
3901 SONOMA SPRINGS AVE  
APT 1705  
LAS CRUCES, NM 88011

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

Cynthia B. McCaughney, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on January 24, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julieta E. Gonzales  
Case Administrator  
State Bar Court