



State Bar Court of California Hearing Department San Francisco REPROVAL			kwiktag [®]  018 037 514
Counsel For The State Bar TREVA R. STEWART 180 HOWARD STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 Bar # 239829	Case Number(s): 10-O-443 PUBLIC MATTER	For Court use only FILED  JUL 18 2011 STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	
Counsel For Respondent JONATHAN ARONS 221 MAIN STREET, SUITE 740 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 Bar # 111257	Submitted to: Settlement Judge STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING PUBLIC REPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED		
In the Matter of: LAWRENCE SOLORIO Bar # 204223 A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)			

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 8, 1999.
- (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 8 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."
- (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
 - (e) ☐ If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below or a separate attachment entitled "Prior Discipline."

(Do not write above this line.)

- (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.

(Do not write above this line.)

- (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:

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 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 language (if any):

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.

Case No. 10-O-443 (State Bar Investigation)

FACTS:

1. On January 24, 2005, Respondent met with Tilden Wyatt ("Tilden") and his wife, Beth Wyatt ("Beth"). The purpose of the meeting was for Tilden and Beth to hire Respondent to draft estate planning documents on behalf of Martha Rose Eck ("Martha"). The Wyatts provided Respondent with a power of attorney document, previously executed by Martha on or about December 30, 2004, as the basis for retaining him to represent Martha. Martha, an 88 year old nursing home patient, was Tilden's great aunt.
2. Respondent, Tilden and Beth executed an attorney client fee agreement which provided that Respondent would prepare all documents and asset protection for a flat fee of \$6,000. Beth initially paid Respondent \$3,000. Respondent was to receive an additional payment of \$3,000 upon obtaining Martha's signature on certain documents. He was to refund \$2500 to Beth if he failed to secure Martha's signature.
3. Respondent prepared a Will, a Power of Attorney for Financial Affairs, a Power of Attorney for Health Care, a Gift Deed, a Preliminary Change of Ownership document and an Affidavit of Exempt Residence.
4. On February 2, 2005, Respondent travelled to the nursing home where Martha was a patient. Accompanying him was his secretary, who was also a notary.
5. Respondent and his secretary met with Martha and Respondent spent no more than 30 to 45 minutes discussing the Will and Power of Attorney documents with her before securing her signature on the two documents. A week prior to the meeting with Martha, Respondent had given the documents to Beth and Tilden to deliver to Martha.
6. Respondent had never previously met Martha in person nor spoken to her over the telephone.
7. Respondent introduced himself to Martha as her attorney.
8. Respondent had Martha execute the Will leaving her estate to Tilden and Beth and an Immediate Power of Attorney naming Beth as the agent for Martha. Both documents were drafted by Respondent.
9. After obtaining Martha's signatures, Tilden and Beth came into Martha's room to discuss the documents Martha had just signed. Martha was informed that Respondent was going to continue the meeting with Tilden and Beth at a restaurant across the street from the nursing home.
10. Respondent had Beth sign the Power of Attorney and the Gift Deed with retained life estate which transferred Martha's home to Tilden and Beth, subject to the life estate in Martha.

11. Once at the restaurant, Respondent provided the Will and Power of Attorney to Tilden and Beth, who then tendered the \$3,000 balance of the flat fee. Respondent instructed Beth to write checks to herself and Tilden in the amount of \$12,000 each on various dates.

12. Based on Respondent's advice, between February 2, 2005 and February 19, 2005, Beth caused \$168,000 of Martha's funds to be transferred to herself and Tilden.

13. Martha died on February 19, 2005.

14. The Calaveras County Superior Court found that Tilden and Beth had exerted undue influence over Martha and made fraudulent representations to her, rendering the Will and Power of Attorney drafted by Respondent invalid.

CONCLUSION OF LAW:

By agreeing to simultaneously represent the interests of Martha, Tilden and Beth, whose interests were conflicted, Respondent accepted or continued representation of more than one client in a matter in which the interests of the clients actually conflicted, without the informed written consent of each client in violation of rule 3-310(F).

PENDING PROCEEDINGS.

The disclosure date referred to on page 2, paragraph A(7), was May 25, 2011

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

In the Matter of Casey (Review Dept. 2008) 5 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 117

Gendron v. State Bar (1983) 35 Cal.3d 409

In the Matter of Donald Dean Carnahan (2007) 449 Mass 1003

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

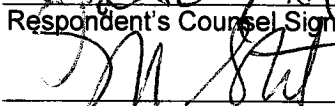
Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of May 25, 2011, the prosecution costs in this matter are approximately \$2068.00. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

(Do not write above this line.)

In the Matter of: LAWRENCE SOLORIO	Case number(s): 10-O-443
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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, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition.

<u>6/23/2011</u> Date	 Respondent's Signature	<u>Lawrence Solorio</u> Print Name
<u>June 23, 2011</u> Date	 Respondent's Counsel Signature	<u>Jonathan Arons</u> Print Name
<u>6/24/2011</u> Date	 Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	<u>Treva Stewart</u> Print Name

(Do not write above this line.)

In the Matter of: Lawrence Solorio (SBN 204223)	Case Number(s): 10-O-443
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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:

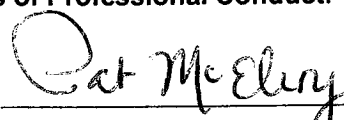
- ☒ The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AND THE REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- ☐ The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- ☐ All court dates in the Hearing Department are vacated.

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

July 18, 2011


Judge of the State Bar Court

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 San Francisco, On July 18, 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 San Francisco, California, addressed as follows:

JONATHAN IRWIN ARONS
LAW OFC JONATHAN I ARONS
221 MAIN ST STE 740
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

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

TREVA STEWART , Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on July 18, 2011.


Laretta Cramer
Case Administrator
State Bar Court