

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL
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San Francisco, California 94105-1639
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FILED

MAR 03 2015

STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES

IN THE STATE BAR COURT OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
CONVICTION OF:

SPENCER FREEMAN SMITH,
No. 236587

RECEIVED

A Member of the State Bar
MAR 03 2015

STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO

) Case No. 12-C-14836
)
) Transmittal of Records of Conviction of Attorney (Bus. & Prof.
) Code §§ 6101-6102; Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.5 et seq.)
)
) [X] Felony;
) [X] Crime(s) involved moral turpitude;
) [] Probable cause to believe the crime(s) involved moral
) turpitude;
) [] Crime(s) which may or may not involve moral turpitude or
) other misconduct warranting discipline;
) [] Transmittal of Notice of Finality of Conviction.

To the CLERK OF THE STATE BAR COURT:

1. Transmittal of records.

[X] A. Pursuant to the provisions of Business and Professions Code, section 6101-6102 and California Rules of Court, rule 9.5 et seq., the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel transmits a certified copy of the record of convictions of the following member of the State Bar and for such consideration and action as the Court deems appropriate:

[] B. Notice of Appeal

[] C. Evidence of Finality of Conviction (Notice of Lack of Appeal)

[] D. Other

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Name of Member: Spencer Freeman Smith

Date member admitted to practice law in California: June 3, 2005

Member's Address of Record: Spencer Freeman Smith

353 Sacramento Street, Suite 1120

San Francisco, CA 94111

2. Date and court of conviction; offense(s).

The record of conviction reflects that the above-named member of the State Bar was convicted as follows:

Date of entry of conviction: November 25, 2014

Convicting court: Alameda Superior Court, Hayward Hall of Justice

Case number(s): H55167

Crime(s) of which convicted and classification(s):

Vehicle Code section 20001(a) [Leaving The Scene of an Accident], one count, a felony that involves moral turpitude as in *People v. Bautista* (1990) 217 Cal. App. 3d 1, 5-7; See also *People v. Dewey* (1996) 42 Cal.App.4th 216, 222. However, see *Cezero v. Mukasey* (9th Cir. 2008) 512 Fed.3d 1163, 1168-1169. In *Cezero*, the Ninth Circuit found that Vehicle Code section 20001(a) is not per se moral turpitude within the federal definition of moral turpitude. But, under *Cezero v. Mukasey*, it would appear that a conviction based on leaving the scene of an accident, as opposed to merely failing to disclose some information, would constitute moral turpitude *per se* under the federal law's modified categorical approach. Here, the record shows that respondent was convicted of leaving the scene of an accident. (See attached December 17, 2013, information, and November 25, 2014, Clerk's Docket and Minutes.)

Vehicle Code section 192(c)(2)[(Misdemeanor Vehicular Manslaughter)], one count, a misdemeanor that may or may not involve moral turpitude as in *In re Alkow* (1996) 64 Cal. 2d 838, 39.

3. Compliance with Rule 9.20. (Applicable only if checked.)

We bring to the Court's attention that, should the Court enter an order of interim suspension herein, the Court may wish to require the above-named member to comply with the provisions of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, paragraph (a), within 30 days of the effective date of any such order; and to file the affidavit with the Clerk of the State Bar Court provided for in paragraph (c) of rule 9.20 within 40 days of the effective date of said order, showing the member's compliance with the provisions of rule 9.20.

4. Other information to assist the State Bar Court

DOCUMENTS TRANSMITTED:

Information filed 12/17/13

Clerk's Docket and Minutes dated 11/25/14

Felony Advisement of Rights, Waiver and Plea Form filed 11/25/14

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

DATED: March 3, 2015

BY: Allen Blumenthal
Allen Blumenthal
Senior Trial Counsel

A copy of this transmittal and its
Attachments have been sent to:

Spencer Freeman Smith
353 Sacramento Street, Suite 1120
San Francisco, CA 94111

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

CASE NUMBER: 12-C-14836

I, the undersigned, over the age of eighteen (18) years, whose business address and place of employment is the State Bar of California, 180 Howard Street, San Francisco, California 94105, declare that I am not a party to the within action; that I am readily familiar with the State Bar of California's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service; that in the ordinary course of the State Bar of California's practice, correspondence collected and processed by the State Bar of California would be deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day; that I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date on the envelope or package is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing contained in the affidavit; and that in accordance with the practice of the State Bar of California for collection and processing of mail, I deposited or placed for collection and mailing in the City and County of San Francisco, on the date shown below, a true copy of the within

TRANSMITTAL OF RECORDS OF CONVICTION OF ATTORNEY

in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing as certified mail, return receipt requested, Article No.: 7196 9008 9111 2393 2249, at San Francisco, on the date shown below, addressed to:

**Spencer Freeman Smith
Smith Patten
353 Sacramento Street, Suite 1120
San Francisco, CA 94111**

in an inter-office mail facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed to:

N/A

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at San Francisco, California, on the date shown below.

DATED: March 3, 2015

Signed: 

**Ina M. Strehle
Declarant**