(Do not write above this line.)

State Bar Court of California Hearing Department Los Angeles **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Counsel For The State Bar Case Number(s): For Court use only Investigation No.: Anthony Garcia 12-J-16572 **Deputy Trial Counsel** 1149 S. Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 765-1089 STATE BAR COURT **CLERK'S OFFICE** Bar # 171419 LOS ANGELES Counsel For Respondent PUBLIC MATTER Sean M. SeLegue Arnold & Porter LLP Three Embarcadero Center, 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-4024 Submitted to: Settlement Judge (415) 471-3100 STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND **DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING** Bar # 155249 In the Matter of: **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** JOY ANN BULL ☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED Bar # 138009 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 7, 1988.
- (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 11 pages, not including the order.

(Effective January 1, 2011)

kwiktag * 152 143 108

Actual Suspension

(Do r	ot writ	e abov	re this line.)			
(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):				
		rel Co (H Re Co Co	ntil costs are paid in full, Respondent will remain actually suspended from the practice of law unless ief is obtained per rule 5.130, Rules of Procedure. In sts are to be paid in equal amounts prior to February 1 for the following membership years: pardship, special circumstances or other good cause per rule 5.132, Rules of Procedure.) If the espondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar pourt, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately. In sts are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs".			
F	Prof	essi	ting Circumstances [for definition, see Standards for Attorney Sanctions for contained in the conduct, standard 1.2(b)]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstance red.			
(1)		Prio	r 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.			
(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 accour to the client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or property.				
(4)		Harr	n: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public or the administration of justice.			

(Do r	not wri	te above this line.)			
(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)	\boxtimes	No aggravating circumstances are involved.			
Add	lition	al aggravating circumstances:			
		pating Circumstances [see standard 1.2(e)]. Facts supporting mitigating imstances 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)	\boxtimes	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. See Stipulation at page nine (9).			

(Do not write above this line.)					
(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.		
Addi	tion	al mit	tigatin	g circumstances:	
	S	ee St	ipulat	ion at page nine (9).	
D. D	isci	iplin	e:		
(1)					
	(a)	\boxtimes	Resp	condent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year.	
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and present fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the law pursuant to standard 1.4(c)(ii) Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.	
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.	
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:	
	(b)	\boxtimes	The a	above-referenced suspension is stayed.	
(2)) 🗵 Probation:				
	Res date	pond of th	ent mi ie Sup	ust be placed on probation for a period of one (1) year, which will commence upon the effective reme Court order in this matter. (See rule 9.18, California Rules of Court)	
(3) 🛮 Actual Suspension:		spension:			
	(a)			condent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period clays.	
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and present fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the law pursuant to standard 1.4(c)(ii), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct	
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.	
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:	
E. Ac	dit	iona	l Cor	nditions of Probation:	
(1)		If Respondent is actually suspended for two years or more, he/she must remain actually suspended until he/she proves to the State Bar Court his/her rehabilitation, fitness to practice, and learning and ability in the general law, pursuant to standard 1.4(c)(ii), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.			
(2)		During the probation period, Respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act and Rules of Professional Conduct.			

(Do n	ot write	e above	this line.)				
(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 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)							
					aining the same information, is due no earlier than probation and no later than the last day of probation.		
(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 to the monitor 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 probation 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 probation conditions.					
(8)	\boxtimes	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)		The fo	ollowing conditions are attached he	reto and inco	orporated:		
			Substance Abuse Conditions		Law Office Management Conditions		
			Medical Conditions		Financial Conditions		
F. 0	the	· Con	ditions Negotiated by the P	arties:			
(1)		the l	Multistate Professional Responsibili ference of Bar Examiners, to the O	ty Examinati	ion: Respondent must provide proof of passage of on ("MPRE"), administered by the National ation during the period of actual suspension or within ss the MPRE results in actual suspension without		

(Do n	(Do not write above this line.)		
		further hearing until passage. But see rule 9.10(b), California Rules of Court, and rule 5.162(A) & (E), Rules of Procedure.	
		□ No MPRE recommended. Reason:	
(2)		Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: Respondent must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.	
(3)		Conditional Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: If Respondent remains actually suspended for 90 days or more, he/she must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 120 and 130 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.	
(4)		Credit for Interim Suspension [conviction referral cases only]: Respondent will be credited for the period of his/her interim suspension toward the stipulated period of actual suspension. Date of commencement of interim suspension:	
(5)		Other Conditions:	

ATTACHMENT TO

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOY ANN BULL

INVESTIGATION NUMBER:

12-J-16572

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that she is culpable of violations of the specified statutes.

<u>Investigation No. 12-J-16572 (Discipline in Other Jurisdiction)</u>

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND IN OTHER JURISDICTION:

- 1. On May 25, 2012, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, Case No. 2:09-cv-00214-JLQ, *Plumbers Union Local No. 12 Pension Fund v. Ambassadors Group, Inc.*, issued a Memorandum and Order wherein it held that certain statements of Respondent as to expenses and disbursements of her firm, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd, LLP ("the Robbins Firm"), were made with, at a minimum, reckless disregard for the truth thereof and violated Respondent's obligation of candor by counsel to the court.
- 2. On June 28, 2012, the *Plumbers Union* Court notified Respondent of its intent to impose disciplinary sanctions against Respondent. The Court afforded Respondent the opportunity to have that matter resolved through the Court's disciplinary procedures in its Local Rules.
- 3. On July 3, 2012, attorney Les Weatherhead ("Weatherhead") filed a notice of representation of Respondent with the *Plumbers Union* Court.
- 4. Respondent, through Weatherhead, waived the Local Rules disciplinary procedures and instead filed a Memorandum and Declaration on July 11, 2012.
 - 5. On July 25, 2012, the Plumbers Union Court issued an Order of Reproval of Respondent.

FACTS:

- 6. Respondent and the Robbins Firm represented Plaintiff Plumbers Union Local No. 12 Pension Fund in the class action *Plumbers Union* case. Respondent's role was that of "settlement partner."
 - 7. In April 2011, the parties agreed to a settlement of the *Plumbers Union* matter.
- 8. Respondent's husband of 43 years, Tom Bull, died in May 2011. He had been battling lymphoma for six years, during which time Respondent cared for him and continued working. During 2010 and 2011, Mr. Bull was in and out of the hospital.

- 9. On June 24, 2011, Respondent filed a Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice, as well as a Memorandum in Support, a Declaration in Support and a Notice of Hearing on Motion, in the *Plumbers Union* case because Respondent is not licensed to practice law in Washington.
- 10. On June 30, 2011, the *Plumbers Union* Court filed an Order Granting Respondent Leave to Appear and Participate Pro Hac Vice.
- 11. On October 27, 2011, the Robbins Firm filed a Motion for Approval of Final Settlement as well as an Application for Attorneys Fees and Expenses.
- 12. On October 27, 2011, Respondent filed, under penalty of perjury, a Declaration in Support of the Motion and Application. In the Declaration, Respondent stated that the Robbins firm incurred a total of \$223,095.46 in expenses. Two items listed under the Expenses were in-house investigator expenses of \$125,935.00 and in-house forensic accountant expenses of \$14,770.00.
- 13. On November 10, 2011, the *Plumbers Union* Court issued an order raising substantial doubts about some of the Robbins Firm's claimed expenses, specifically the \$125,935.00 of expenses for inhouse investigators that was not accompanied with any detailed explanation of the expenses. The Court ordered the Robbins Firm to be prepared to address the Court's concerns at a November 30, 2011 hearing. Respondent received the Court's November 10, 2011 Order.
- 14. On November 23, 2011, the *Plumbers Union* Court issued a Memorandum stating the issues that the Robbins Firm attorneys should be prepared to address at the November 30, 2011 hearing. Respondent received this Memorandum.
- 15. On November 30, 2011, the *Plumbers Union* Court held a hearing where Respondent was present. At the hearing, in response to the Court's questions, Respondent stated that the Robbins Firm had not paid the in-house investigator \$125,935.00 and that the Robbins Firm had not paid the in-house accountant \$14,770.00 as listed in the October 27, 2011 Declaration. Respondent stated that those figures included the in-house personnel's salaries, benefits, overhead and the like, in the same manner as attorney time is billed by the Robbins Firm- in other words, "market rates". At the hearing, the Court ordered Respondent to submit a revised declaration that would state the actual amount paid to the investigator and to the accountant.
- 16. Following the hearing, on December 30, 2011, Respondent filed, under penalty of perjury, a Declaration in Support of the Robbins Firm's Motion for Attorneys Fees that sought recovery of the amount actually paid to the in-house investigator and the in-house accountant. The actual out-of-pocket disbursement to the in-house investigator was \$31,710.15, not \$125,935.00 as listed in the October 27, 2011 Declaration, and the actual out-of-pocket disbursement to the in-house accountant was \$4,035.09, not \$14,770.00 as listed in the October 27, 2011 Declaration.
- 17. Although Respondent and the Robbins Firm originally stated that the expenses that were listed in the October 27, 2011 Declaration were the "market rate" of investigators and accountants, after being questioned by the Court, Respondent stated in a Declaration filed July 11, 2012, that the presentation of market rates as disbursements was simply wrong and was an error.

18. The Court's July 25, 2012 Reproval held that Respondent had reckless disregard for the truth in her Declaration filed under penalty of perjury with the Court and that Respondent lacked candor with the Court.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

- 19. The disciplinary proceeding in the other jurisdiction provided Respondent with fundamental constitutional protection.
- 20. Respondent's conduct in the other jurisdiction as set forth above would warrant the imposition of discipline in California.

ADDITIONAL FACTS RE MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Good Character: Respondent's good character has been attested to by a wide range of individuals in her community, consisting of 11 individuals with full knowledge of Respondent's misconduct, including attorneys and business colleagues. (Standard 1.2(e)(vi).)

ADDITIONAL MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

No Prior Discipline: Respondent has no prior record of discipline in over 23 years of practice, from the time she was admitted in 1988 until the time of the misconduct in 2011-2012. Standard 1.2(e)(i) states that mitigation credit shall be given to respondents who have no prior record over a period of many years of practice coupled with misconduct that is not deemed serious. Respondent's present misconduct is serious and, therefore, Respondent does not meet the exact requirements of Standard 1.2(e)(i). However, Respondent is entitled to some mitigation credit. (In the Matter of Aguiluz (Review Dept. 1992) 2 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 32, 44; Kelly v. State Bar (1988) 45 Cal. 3d 649, 657.)

Candor/Cooperation: Respondent acknowledged her wrongdoing and cooperated with the State Bar in these proceedings by entering into a stipulation of facts, conclusions of law, and disposition without the necessity of having a trial on this matter. (*In the Matter of Downey* (Review Dept. 2009) 5 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 151, 156.)

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

The Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct provide a "process of fixing discipline" pursuant to a set of written principles to "better discharge the purposes of attorney discipline as announced by the Supreme Court." (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, Introduction (all further references to standards are to this source).) The primary purposes of disciplinary proceedings and of the sanctions imposed 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." (*In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184, 205; std 1.3.)

Although not binding, the standards are entitled to "great weight" and should be followed "whenever possible" in determining level of discipline. (In re Silverton (2005) 36 Cal.4th 81, 92, quoting In re Brown (1995) 12 Cal.4th 205, 220 and In re Young (1989) 49 Cal.3d 257, 267, fn. 11.) Adherence to the standards in the great majority of cases serves the valuable purpose of eliminating

disparity and assuring consistency, that is, the imposition of similar attorney discipline for instances of similar attorney misconduct. (*In re Naney* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 186, 190.) Any discipline recommendation different from that set forth in the applicable standards should clearly explain the reasons for the deviation. (*Blair v. State Bar* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 762, 776, fn. 5.)

Respondent's misconduct is most akin to a violation of § 6068(d) [Seeking to Mislead a Court]. Standard 2.6(a) states that violations of § 6068(d), Business and Professions Code, shall result in discipline ranging from suspension to disbarment depending on the gravity of the offense or the harm to the victim. This offense is serious as it involved a reckless disregard for the truth and a lack of candor with the Court. There was no harm to a specific client, but Respondent's misconduct was an attempt to harm the administration of justice, and had the misleading figures been adopted by the Court, there would have been harm to the class of plaintiffs. This offense warrants discipline in the middle of the range enumerated in Standard 2.6(a).

The Supreme Court has held that misconduct similar to Respondent's warrants actual suspension. In *Bach v. State Bar* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 848, a respondent who made false statements to a court in violation of § 6068(d) received 60 days actual suspension. Here, Respondent submitted a declaration under penalty of perjury that contained misleading expense figures. The fact that Respondent's statements were submitted under penalty of perjury makes this conduct more severe than the respondent in *Bach* and undermines the public's and the court's confidence in the legal profession. The correct expense figures were only submitted to the Court after the Court challenged Respondent and the Robbins Firm's initial figures. Although Respondent has a discipline-free history as well as cooperation and good character in mitigation, a one year stayed suspension with 90 days actual suspension and one year probation is an appropriate discipline to ensure public protection.

PENDING PROCEEDINGS.

The disclosure date referred to, on page 2, paragraph A(7), was January 15, 2013.

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of December 14, 2012, the prosecution costs in this matter are \$2,865.00. 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.

EXCLUSION FROM MCLE CREDIT

Pursuant to rule 3201, Respondent may <u>not</u> receive MCLE credit for completion of State Bar Ethics School, to be ordered as a condition of suspension. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 3201.)

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.

January 24,201	3 dy/ 12 ule	Joy Ann Bull
Date O	Respondent's Signature	Print Name
Jan, 22, 2013	mm	Sean M. SeLegue
Date	Respondent's Counsel Signature	Print Name
1/29/13=		Anthony Garcia
Dete /	Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	Print Name

(Do not write a	bove this line.)		
In the Mat JOY ANI		Case Number(s): Investigation No.: 12-J-16572	
	ACTUAL	SUSPENSION ORDER	
	stipulation to be fair to the parties and ismissal of counts/charges, if any, is 0	that it adequately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the SRANTED without prejudice, and:	
	The stipulated facts and disposition Supreme Court.	are APPROVED and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the	
The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED to the Supreme Court.			
	All Hearing dates are vacated.		
within 15 da stipulation. (ys after service of this order, is grante See rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Proce	ved unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed ed; or 2) this court modifies or further modifies the approved edure.) The effective date of this disposition is the effective date 0 days after file date. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of	
02-	12-2013	Auto IN	
Date		RICHARD A. PLATEL Judge of the State Bar Court	

(Effective January 1, 2011)

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 February 13, 2013, 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:

SEAN M. SELEGUE ARNOLD & PORTER LLP THREE EMBARCADERO CTR 7TH FL SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 - 4024

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

Anthony J. Garcia, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on February 13, 2013.

Angela Carpenter
Case Administrator
State Bar Court