

State Bar Court of California Hearing Department PUBLIC MATTER Los Angeles **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Counsel For The State Bar Case Number(s): For Court use only 12-O-16591-RAH **Anand Kumar** Deputy Trial Counsel 1149 S. Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 765-1714 JUL n 2 2013 STATE BAR COURT Bar # 261592 **CLERK'S OFFICE** LOS ANGELES In Pro Per Respondent Jennifer Lynn Kammerer 7660 Fay Ave., Suite H266 La Jolla, California 92037 (858) 952-6847 Submitted to: Settlement Judge STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND Bar # 204888 DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING In the Matter of: JENNIFER LYNN KAMMERER **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** ☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED Bar # 204888 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:

- 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 11 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."

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(5)	Co: Lav	inclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of w".				
(6)		e parties must include supporting authority for the recommended level of discipline under the heading upporting Authority."				
(7)		more than 30 days prior to the filing of this stipulation, Respondent has been advised in writing of any nding 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 6140.7. (Check one option only):						
		relief is obtained per rule 5.130, Rules of Procedure.				
F	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.				
(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)	\boxtimes	Indifference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the consequences of his or her misconduct. See stipulation, at page 8.				

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(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.		
Add	ition	al aggravating circumstances:		
	_	ating 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)		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.		

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(13) No mitigating circumstances are involved.						
Addi	Additional mitigating circumstances:					
	See stipulation, at page 8.					
D. 0)isci	plin	e:			
(1)	\boxtimes	Stayed Suspension:				
	(a)	Respondent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of two (2) years.				
		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	above-referenced suspension is stayed.		
(2)	\boxtimes	Probation:				
	Respondent must be placed on probation for a period of two (2) years, which will commence upon the effective date of the Supreme Court order in this matter. (See rule 9.18, California Rules of Court)					
(3)	\boxtimes	Actual Suspension:				
	(a)	Respondent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period of thirty (30) days.				
		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. Additional Conditions 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)	\boxtimes	During the probation period, Respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act and Rules of Professional Conduct.				
(3)	\boxtimes	With State	in ten e Bar	(10) days of any change, Respondent must report to the Membership Records Office of the and to the Office of Probation of the State Bar of California ("Office of Probation"), all changes of		

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		inform purpo	mation, including current office address oses, as prescribed by section 6002.1 o	and telep	hone number, or other address for State Bar ness and Professions Code.			
(4)	\boxtimes	and s condi proba	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)		Resp July wheth condi are a curre	Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation on each January 10, April 10, July 10, and October 10 of the period of probation. 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 probation during the preceding calendar quarter. Respondent must also state 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 days, that report must be submitted on the next quarter date, and cover the extended period.					
		In add	dition to all quarterly reports, a final rep ty (20) days before the last day of the p	oort, contai period of pr	ning the same information, is due no earlier than obation 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. Rea	ason:	•			
(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 f	ollowing conditions are attached hereto	and inco	porated:			
			Substance Abuse Conditions		Law Office Management Conditions			
			Medical Conditions		Financial Conditions			
F. O	ther	Con	nditions Negotiated by the Par	ties:				
(1)		Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination: 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 during the period of actual suspension or within one year, whichever period is longer. Failure to pass the MPRE results in actual suspension without further hearing until passage. But see rule 9.10(b), California Rules of Court, and rule 5.162(A) & (E), Rules of Procedure.						

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		☐ 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:

JENNIFER LYNN KAMMERER

CASE NUMBER:

12-O-16591-RAH

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that she is culpable of violations of the specified statutes and/or Rules of Professional Conduct.

Case No. 12-O-16591-RAH (State Bar Investigation)

FACTS:

- 1. On May 26, 2011, the California Supreme Court entered an order (S193344), effective on July 1, 2011, suspending Respondent from the practice of law as a result of Respondent's failure to pay her State Bar of California membership fees. On May 26, 2011, the State Bar's Membership Records Office properly served a copy of this order on Respondent at her State Bar membership records address. Respondent received the order.
- 2. On July 3, 2012, Respondent was administratively suspended and placed on inactive status as a result of her failure to timely comply with her Minimum Continuing Legal Education ("MCLE") requirements and report such compliance to the State Bar's Membership Services Office.
- 3. On July 16, 2012, the State Bar's Membership Services Office sent a letter to Respondent at her State Bar membership records address advising her of the July 3, 2012 administrative suspension, her inactive status and the consequences of being placed on inactive status. Respondent received the July 16, 2012 letter.
- 4. Respondent remained suspended for failing to pay her membership fees and for failing to comply with her MCLE requirements until December 26, 2012 when she was reinstated to active status after paying her fees and submitting proof of her MCLE compliance.
- 5. On September 19, 2012, Respondent sent out a mass email to potential clients advertising estate planning services. The signature block of the email stated "Law Offices of Jennifer L. Kammerer." Attached to the email were two documents written on Respondent's letterhead listing considerations and issues that commonly arise in estate planning and soliciting the potential clients to contact an estate planning attorney.
- 6. By sending out her September 19, 2012 email advertising estate planning services to potential clients, Respondent held herself out as an active member of the State Bar, entitled to practice law in the State of California, to potential clients who were the recipients of her mass email while she was suspended and on inactive status.

7. At the time she sent the email, Respondent knew that she was suspended, on inactive status and not eligible to practice law. Respondent concealed this true fact from potential clients by sending out her mass email without indicating she was not eligible to practice law and thereby misrepresented that she was an active member of the State Bar and entitled to practice law.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

- 8. By sending out an email advertising estate planning services to potential clients when she was not entitled to practice law, Respondent held herself out as entitled to practice law when she was not an active member of the State Bar in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, sections 6125 and 6126 and thereby willfully violated Business and Professions Code, section 6068(a).
- 9. By misrepresenting that she was an active member of the State Bar while she was suspended and on inactive status and by concealing the truth from potential clients, Respondent committed an act or acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6106.

ADDITIONAL FACTS RE AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Indifference (Std. 1.2(b)(v)): In June 2012, prior to the instant misconduct which took place in September 2012, the State Bar issued Respondent a warning letter in another case for holding herself out as entitled to practice law when she sent a cease-and-desist letter to a third party on behalf of a client while Respondent was on administrative suspension and not entitled to practice law. Respondent received the warning letter and yet committed the same kind of misconduct in the instant matter when she should have had a heightened awareness of her obligation not to do so by virtue of the warning letter as well as the Court orders and the administrative suspension notice letters sent to her by the State Bar's Membership Services Office. Respondent's subsequent holding herself out within months of being issued a warning letter by the State Bar evidences indifference toward rectification of her misconduct and indifference toward her ethical obligations.

ADDITIONAL MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

Pretrial Stipulation: While some of the facts in this matter are easily provable, Respondent has cooperated with the State Bar by entering into the instant stipulation fully resolving the matter without the necessity of a trial thereby saving State Bar resources. (Silva-Vidor v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 1071, 1079 [where mitigative credit was given for entering into a stipulation as to facts and culpability].)

No Prior Record of Discipline over Many Years of Practice: Respondent has no prior record of discipline, but the current misconduct is serious. Accordingly, while she is not entitled to mitigation under standard 1.2(e)(i), Respondent's twelve-year discipline-free record is nonetheless entitled to significant mitigation. (Hawes v. State Bar (1990) 51 Cal.3d 587, 596 [more than 10 years of discipline-free entitled to significant mitigation].)

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 admits to committing two acts of professional misconduct. Standard 1.6 (a) requires that where a Respondent acknowledges two or more acts of misconduct, and different sanctions are prescribed by the standards that apply to those acts, the sanction imposed shall be the more or most severe prescribed in the applicable standards. The most severe sanction applicable to Respondent's instant misconduct is found in standard 2.3, which applies to Respondent's violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6106.

Standard 2.3 provides that culpability of a member of an act of moral turpitude, fraud, or intentional dishonesty toward a court, client or another person shall result in actual suspension or disbarment depending upon the extent to which the victim of the misconduct is harmed or misled and depending upon the magnitude of the act of misconduct and the degree to which it relates to the member's acts within the practice of law. The degree to which Respondent's misconduct relates to her practice of law is clear in so far as her email advertisement to prospective clients demonstrates an attempt to solicit potential clients during a period when she was not entitled to practice law.

The magnitude of the misconduct is also significant here. The "unauthorized practice of law includes the mere holding out by a layman that he is practicing or is entitled to practice law." (Crawford v. State Bar (1960) 54 Cal.2d 659, 666; see also In re Cadwell (1975) 15 Cal.3d 762, 771, fn. 3 [an implied representation of entitlement to practice constitutes unauthorized practice of law] and fn. 4 [even if an attorney did not "know his conduct violated the [suspension] order, he at the very least displayed an indifferent disregard of his duty to comply with the order"].) Moreover, Respondent's misconduct came at a time when she knew that she was not entitled to practice since she had already received the Court's orders and two letters regarding her administrative suspensions. The misconduct also occurred after Respondent had already been warned by the State Bar for practicing law while she was not entitled to do so. Her inability or unwillingness to comply with the California Supreme Court's orders constitutes a threat to the public requiring discipline in the form of an actual suspension to ensure public protection.

Accordingly, consistent with standard 2.3 and taking into account the mitigative credit Respondent is entitled to for her lack of prior discipline and balancing said mitigation against the aggravating circumstances, a two (2) year stayed suspension and a two (2) year probation with conditions including a thirty (30) day actual suspension is appropriate in this matter to protect the public, the courts and the legal profession, maintain high professional standards by attorneys, and preserve public confidence in the legal profession.

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of June 20, 2013, the prosecution costs in this matter are approximately \$3,517.19. 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. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 3201.)

Case number(s):	
12-O-16591-RAH	
12-0-10371-10111	

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>(a - 24 - 2013</u> Date	den	Jennifer Lynn Kammerer
Date	Respondent's Signature	Print Name
		N/A
Date	Respondent's Counsel Signature	Print Name
6.24.2013	All	Anand Kumar
Date	Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	Print Name

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In the Matte		Case Number(s): 12-O-16591-RAH		
	ACTUAL SUSF	PENSION ORDER		
Finding the s	stipulation to be fair to the parties and that it a smissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTE	dequately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the ED without prejudice, and:		
	The stipulated facts and disposition are AP Supreme Court.	PROVED and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the		
	The stipulated facts and disposition are AP DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED to the St	PROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the upreme Court.		
	All Hearing dates are vacated.			
within 15 day stipulation (ys after service of this order, is granted; or 2) See rule 5.58(E) & (F). Rules of Procedure.)	ess: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed this court modifies or further modifies the approved The effective date of this disposition is the effective date after file date. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of		
,	01 0112	1.100.00		
Date		IARD A. PLATEL e of the State Bar Court		

RICHARD A. PLATEL

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 July 2, 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:

JENNIFER L. KAMMERER JLKLAW LAW OFFICE OF JENNIFER L KAMMERER 7660 FAY AVE STE H266 LA JOLLA, CA 92037

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

Anand Kumar, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on July 2, 2013.

Paul Barona

Case Administrator

State Bar Court