

PUBLIC MATTER

1 STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
2 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL
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FILED

DEC 23 2014

STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES

STATE BAR COURT

HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

12 In the Matter of:) Case No. 13-O-11267
13 PAUL LAWRENCE STANTON,) NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES
14 No. 58378,)
15 A Member of the State Bar.)

NOTICE - FAILURE TO RESPOND!

17 **IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER TO THIS NOTICE**
18 **WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER SERVICE, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT**
19 **THE STATE BAR COURT TRIAL:**

- 20 (1) **YOUR DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED;**
- 21 (2) **YOUR STATUS WILL BE CHANGED TO INACTIVE AND YOU**
22 **WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW;**
- 23 (3) **YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE FURTHER IN**
24 **THESE PROCEEDINGS UNLESS YOU MAKE A TIMELY MOTION**
25 **AND THE DEFAULT IS SET ASIDE, AND;**
- 26 (4) **YOU SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE.**
27 **SPECIFICALLY, IF YOU FAIL TO TIMELY MOVE TO SET ASIDE**
28 **OR VACATE YOUR DEFAULT, THIS COURT WILL ENTER AN**
ORDER RECOMMENDING YOUR DISBARMENT WITHOUT
FURTHER HEARING OR PROCEEDING. SEE RULE 5.80 ET SEQ.,
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA.



1 The State Bar of California alleges:

2 JURISDICTION

3 1. PAUL LAWRENCE STANTON ("Respondent") was admitted to the practice of law
4 in the State of California on December 20, 1973, was a member at all times pertinent to these
5 charges, and is currently a member of the State Bar of California.

6 COUNT ONE

7 Case No. 13-O-11267
8 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A)
[Failure to Perform with Competence]

9 2. On or about March 7, 2011, brothers James and Martin Kazliner employed
10 Respondent to perform legal services, namely to represent them in connection with their claim as
11 beneficiaries of the The Kazliner Trust and any related actions, which Respondent intentionally,
12 recklessly, or repeatedly failed to perform with competence, in willful violation of Rules of
13 Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A), by the following:

- 14 A. Failing to prepare and file an Order Approving the Settlement Agreement;
15 B. Failing to complete the services related to transferring all assets into The Kazliner
16 Trust and preparing and filing an order transferring those assets into The Kazliner
17 Trust; and
18 C. Failing to perform services related to resolving or settling a loan from Bank of
19 America.

19 COUNT TWO

20 Case No. 13-O-11267
21 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-100(B)(3)
[Failure to Render Accounts of Client Funds]

22 3. On or about March 6, 2011, Respondent received from Respondent's clients, brothers
23 James and Martin Kazliner the sum of \$50,000 as advanced fees for legal services to be
24 performed. Respondent thereafter failed to render an appropriate accounting to the client
25 regarding those funds following the termination of Respondent's employment on or about March
26 20, 2013, in willful violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-100(B)(3).

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COUNT THREE

Case No. 13-O-11267
Business and Professions Code, section 6068(m)
[Failure to Respond to Client Inquiries]

4. Respondent failed to respond promptly to numerous reasonable email and phone status inquiries made by Respondent's clients, brothers James and Martin Kazliner, between on or about January 18, 2012 and on or about April 24, 2012, and on or about April 26, 2012 and on or about June 22, 2012 that Respondent received in a matter in which Respondent had agreed to provide legal services, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(m).

COUNT FOUR

Case No. 13-O-11267
Business and Professions Code, section 6068(m)
[Failure to Inform Client of Significant Development]

5. Respondent failed to keep Respondent's clients, brothers James and Martin Kazliner, reasonably informed of significant developments in a matter in which Respondent had agreed to provide legal services, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(m), by failing to inform the client of the following:

- A. That Respondent failed to submit a proposed order approving the settlement agreement;
- B. That Respondent did not prepare and/or submit a proposed order to transfer non-trust assets into trust;
- C. That Respondent was not going to pursue a Bank of America predatory loan issue; and
- D. That opposing counsel filed a Motion for Judgment against them.

COUNT FIVE

Case No. 13-O-11267
Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(1)
[Failure to Release File]

6. Respondent failed to release promptly, after termination of Respondent's employment on or about March 20, 2013, to Respondent's client, brothers James and Martin Kazliner, all of

1 the client's papers and property following the client's request for the client's file on March 20,
2 2013, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(1).

3 **NOTICE - INACTIVE ENROLLMENT!**

4 **YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER NOTIFIED THAT IF THE STATE BAR**
5 **COURT FINDS, PURSUANT TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE**
6 **SECTION 6007(c), THAT YOUR CONDUCT POSES A SUBSTANTIAL**
7 **THREAT OF HARM TO THE INTERESTS OF YOUR CLIENTS OR TO**
8 **THE PUBLIC, YOU MAY BE INVOLUNTARILY ENROLLED AS AN**
9 **INACTIVE MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR. YOUR INACTIVE**
10 **ENROLLMENT WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO ANY DISCIPLINE**
11 **RECOMMENDED BY THE COURT.**

12 **NOTICE - COST ASSESSMENT!**

13 **IN THE EVENT THESE PROCEDURES RESULT IN PUBLIC**
14 **DISCIPLINE, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF COSTS**
15 **INCURRED BY THE STATE BAR IN THE INVESTIGATION, HEARING**
16 **AND REVIEW OF THIS MATTER PURSUANT TO BUSINESS AND**
17 **PROFESSIONS CODE SECTION 6086.10.**

18 Respectfully submitted,

19 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
20 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

21 DATED: December 23, 2014

22 By: 
23 MIA R. ELLIS
24 Senior Trial Counsel
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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

by

U.S. FIRST-CLASS MAIL / U.S. CERTIFIED MAIL / OVERNIGHT DELIVERY / FACSIMILE-ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

CASE NUMBER(s): 13-O-11267

I, the undersigned, am over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to the within action, whose business address and place of employment is the State Bar of California, 845 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California 90017-2515, declare that:

- on the date shown below, I caused to be served a true copy of the within document described as follows:

NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

By U.S. First-Class Mail: (CCP §§ 1013 and 1013(a))

- 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 Los Angeles.

By U.S. Certified Mail: (CCP §§ 1013 and 1013(a))

By Overnight Delivery: (CCP §§ 1013(c) and 1013(d))

- I am readily familiar with the State Bar of California's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for overnight delivery by the United Parcel Service (UPS).

By Fax Transmission: (CCP §§ 1013(e) and 1013(f))

Based on agreement of the parties to accept service by fax transmission, I faxed the documents to the persons at the fax numbers listed herein below. No error was reported by the fax machine that I used. The original record of the fax transmission is retained on file and available upon request.

By Electronic Service: (CCP § 1010.6)

Based on a court order or an agreement of the parties to accept service by electronic transmission, I caused the documents to be sent to the person(s) at the electronic addresses listed herein below. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

(for U.S. First-Class Mail) in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing at Los Angeles, addressed to: (see below)

(for Certified Mail) in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing as certified mail, return receipt requested,

Article No.: 7196 9008 9111 1008 4883 at Los Angeles, addressed to: (see below)

(for Overnight Delivery) together with a copy of this declaration, in an envelope, or package designated by UPS,

Tracking No.: addressed to: (see below)

Table with 4 columns: Person Served, Business-Residential Address, Fax Number, Courtesy Copy to:.

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, and overnight delivery by the United Parcel Service (UPS). 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, and for overnight delivery, deposited with delivery fees paid or provided for, with UPS that same day.

I am aware that on motion of the 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.

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

DATED: December 23, 2014

SIGNED:

Sandra Reynolds
Sandra Reynolds
Declarant