

**PUBLIC MATTER**

**FILED**

**JUL 09 2014**

**STATE BAR COURT  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
LOS ANGELES**

1 STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
2 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL  
3 JAYNE KIM, No. 174614  
4 CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL  
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11 845 South Figueroa Street  
12 Los Angeles, California 90017-2515  
13 Telephone: (213) 765-1498

STATE BAR COURT

HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

13 In the Matter of: ) Case Nos. 13-O-11569  
14 CATALINA L. MANZANO, ) 14-O-00588  
15 No. 191928, ) NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES  
16 A Member of the State Bar )  
17



**NOTICE - FAILURE TO RESPOND!**

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

- (1) YOUR DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED;**
- (2) YOUR STATUS WILL BE CHANGED TO INACTIVE AND YOU  
WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW;**
- (3) YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE FURTHER IN  
THESE PROCEEDINGS UNLESS YOU MAKE A TIMELY MOTION  
AND THE DEFAULT IS SET ASIDE, AND;**
- (4) YOU SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE.  
SPECIFICALLY, IF YOU FAIL TO TIMELY MOVE TO SET ASIDE  
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.**

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The State Bar of California alleges:

JURISDICTION

1. CATALINA MANZANO ("Respondent") was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California on December 4, 1997, was a member at all times pertinent to these charges, and is currently a member of the State Bar of California.

COUNT ONE

Case No. 13-O-11569  
Business and Professions Code, section 6103  
[Failure to Obey a Court Order]

2. On or about May 31, 2012, Alejandro Vega ("Vega") employed Respondent to perform legal services, namely to represent Vega in a civil matter, *Karim Gabeirla Aguirre vs. Vega*, Kern County Superior Court, Case No. S-1500-CV-275340 ("the civil matter"), and thereafter Respondent disobeyed or violated orders of the court requiring Respondent to do or forbear an act connected with or in the course of Respondent's profession which Respondent ought in good faith to do or forbear:

- a) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about May 31, 2012, to personally appear at a court hearing on July 2, 2012;
- b) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about July 2, 2012, to personally appear at a court hearing on August 24, 2012;
- c) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about August 24, 2012, to personally appear at a court hearing on January 11, 2013;
- d) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about January 11, 2013, to personally appear at a court hearing on January 25, 2013;
- e) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about January 25, 2013, to personally appear at a court hearing on February 13, 2013;
- f) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about February 13, 2013, to personally appear at a court hearing on February 15, 2013;

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1 g) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about February 15, 2013, to  
2 personally appear at a court hearing on February 20, 2013; and  
3 h) By failing to comply with a court order issued on or about January 11, 2013, to file  
4 and serve a mandatory settlement conference statement by January 18, 2013;  
5 in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6103.

6 COUNT TWO  
7 Case No. 13-O-11569  
8 Business and Professions Code, section 6103  
9 [Failure to Obey a Court Order]

10 3. On or about May 31, 2012, Alejandro Vega (“Vega”) employed Respondent to  
11 perform legal services, namely to represent Vega in a civil matter, *Karim Gabeirla Aguirre vs.*  
12 *Vega*, Kern County Superior Court, Case No. S-1500-CV-275340 (“the civil matter”), and  
13 thereafter Respondent disobeyed or violated court orders to pay sanctions, imposed due to  
14 Respondent’s failure to comply with other orders of the court, by failing to timely pay sanctions  
15 in the amount of \$250 ordered by the court on or about August 24, 2012, in willful violation of  
16 Business and Professions Code, section 6103.

17 COUNT THREE  
18 Case No. 13-O-11569  
19 Business and Professions Code, section 6103  
20 [Failure to Obey a Court Order]

21 4. On or about May 31, 2012, Alejandro Vega (“Vega”) employed Respondent to  
22 perform legal services, namely to represent Vega in a civil matter, *Karim Gabeirla Aguirre vs.*  
23 *Vega*, Kern County Superior Court, Case No. S-1500-CV-275340 (“the civil matter”), and  
24 thereafter Respondent disobeyed or violated court orders to pay sanctions, imposed due to  
25 Respondent’s failure to comply with other orders of the court, by failing to timely pay sanctions  
26 in the amount of \$750 ordered by the court on or about February 20, 2014, in willful violation of  
27 Business and Professions Code, section 6103.

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COUNT FOUR

Case No. 13-O-11569  
Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i)  
[Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

5. Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending against Respondent by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar's letter of April 30, 2013, which Respondent received, that requested Respondent's response to the allegations of misconduct being investigated in case no. 13-O-11569, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i).

COUNT FIVE

Case No. 14-O-00588  
Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A)  
[Failure to Perform with Competence]

6. On or about August 13, 2013, Denise Sales hired Respondent to represent her in a wrongful termination case, in which Respondent intentionally, recklessly, or repeatedly failed to perform with competence, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A), by performing no legal services of value on behalf of the client.

COUNT SIX

Case No. 14-O-00588  
Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(2)  
[Failure to Refund Unearned Fees]

On or about August 13, 2013, Respondent received advanced fees of \$ \$2,500, from a client, Denise Sailes. Respondent performed no services of value on behalf of the client and therefore earned none of the advanced fees paid. Respondent failed to refund promptly, upon Respondent's termination of employment on or about April 2, 2014, any part of the \$2,500 fee, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(2).

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COUNT SEVEN

Case No. 14-O-00588  
Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i)  
[Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

7. Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending against Respondent by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar's letter dated March 11, 2014, which Respondent received, that requested Respondent's response to the allegations of misconduct being investigated in case no. 14-O-00588, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i).

NOTICE - INACTIVE ENROLLMENT!

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

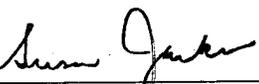
NOTICE - COST ASSESSMENT!

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

Respectfully submitted,

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

DATED: July 9, 2014

By:   
SUSAN JACKSON  
Deputy Trial Counsel

**DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL**

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**CASE NUMBERS: 13-O-11569 & 14-O-00588**

I, the undersigned, over the age of eighteen (18) years, whose business address and place of employment is the State Bar of California, 845 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California 90017, 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 Los Angeles, on the date shown below, a true copy of the within

**NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES**

in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing as certified mail, return receipt requested, Article No.: 7196 9008 9111 6409 9123, at Los Angeles, on the date shown below, addressed to:

**Catalina L. Manzano  
Troiani & Associates, PLC  
15915 Ventura Blvd Ste 201  
Encino, CA 91436**

**And regular U.S. Mail to:**

**Catalina L. Manzano  
Troiani & Associates, PLC  
15915 Ventura Blvd Ste 201  
Encino, CA 91436**

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 Los Angeles, California, on the date shown below.

DATED: July 9, 2014

Signed:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Max Carranza  
Declarant