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State Bar Court of California Hearing Department Los Angeles ACTUAL SUSPENSION		
Counsel For The State Bar Diane J. Meyers Deputy Trial Counsel 845 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90017-2515 (213) 765-1496 Bar # 146643	Case Number(s): 13-O-17617	For Court use only PUBLIC MATTER FILED AUG 08 2014  STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO
In Pro Per Respondent Michael King Groves 71339 Sahara Road Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 (760) 346-7352 Bar # 110645	Submitted to: Assigned Judge STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING ACTUAL SUSPENSION <input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED	
In the Matter of: MICHAEL KING GROVES Bar # 110645 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 14, 1983**.
- (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 **12** 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."
- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law".

(Effective January 1, 2014)



- (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):
- ☐ Until costs are paid in full, Respondent will remain actually suspended from the practice of law unless relief is obtained per rule 5.130, Rules of Procedure.
 - ☒ Costs are to be paid in equal amounts prior to February 1 for the following membership years: **three billing cycles following the effective date of the Supreme Court Order.** (Hardship, special circumstances or other good cause per rule 5.132, Rules of Procedure.) If Respondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar Court, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately.
 - ☐ Costs are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs".
 - ☐ Costs are entirely waived.

B. Aggravating Circumstances [Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct, standards 1.2(f) & 1.5]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are required.

- (1) ☒ **Prior record of discipline**
- (a) ☒ State Bar Court case # of prior case **96-O-00634 (See Attachment to Stipulation at p. 8.)**
 - (b) ☒ Date prior discipline effective **June 15, 1997**
 - (c) ☒ Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations: **Rules of Professional Conduct, rules 3-310(B) and 3-300**
 - (d) ☒ Degree of prior discipline **Public reproof**
 - (e) ☒ If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below.
 - (a) State Bar case # of prior case: **12-O-17916 (See Attachment to Stipulation at p. 8.)**
 - (b) Date prior discipline effective: **November 28, 2013**
 - (c) Rules of Professional Conduct/State Bar Act violations: **Business and Professions Code section 6106.3(a)**
 - (d) Degree of prior discipline: **one year stayed suspension and probation**
- (2) ☐ **Dishonesty:** Respondent's misconduct was intentional, 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) ☐ **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) ☐ **Restitution:** Respondent failed to make restitution.
- (9) ☐ **No aggravating circumstances** are involved.

Additional aggravating circumstances:

See Attachment to Stipulation at pp. 8-9.

C. Mitigating Circumstances [see standards 1.2(g) & 1.6]. Facts supporting mitigating circumstances 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, the public, or the administration of justice.
- (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 with a good faith belief that was honestly held and reasonable.
- (8) ☐ **Emotional/Physical Difficulties:** At the time of the stipulated act or acts of professional misconduct Respondent suffered extreme emotional difficulties or physical or mental 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 the difficulties or disabilities no longer pose a risk that Respondent will commit misconduct.
- (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.

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- (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 extraordinarily 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.
- (13) ☐ **No mitigating circumstances** are involved.

Additional mitigating circumstances:

See Attachment to Stipulation at p. 9.

D. Discipline:

- (1) ☒ **Stayed Suspension:**
- (a) ☒ Respondent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of **two 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 1.2(c)(1) 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) ☒ The above-referenced suspension is stayed.
- (2) ☒ **Probation:**
- Respondent must be placed on probation for a period of **two 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) ☒ **Actual Suspension:**
- (a) ☒ Respondent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period of **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 1.2(c)(1), 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:

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- (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 1.2(c)(1), 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.
- (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 of 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) ☒ 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 addition to all quarterly reports, a final report, containing the same information, is due no earlier than twenty (20) days before the last day of the period of 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) ☐ 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: **Respondent attended Ethics School on February 20, 2014, and passed the test given at the end of the session.**
- (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 following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse Conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Office Management Conditions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Conditions |

F. Other Conditions Negotiated by the Parties:

- (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.**
- ☒ No MPRE recommended. Reason: **Respondent has been ordered to pass the MPRE in connection with case no. 12-O-17916.**
- (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: MICHAEL KING GROVES

CASE NUMBER: 13-O-17617

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

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

Case No. 13-O-17617 (Complainant: Jose R. Gonzalez, Jr.)

FACTS:

1. On or about July 24, 2011, Jose R. Gonzalez, Jr. ("Gonzalez") accepted Respondent's offer to negotiate a mortgage loan modification or other form of mortgage loan forbearance for Gonzalez with Chase Bank for a fee.
2. On July 24, 2011, an "Authorization to Represent" was sent by Respondent's office to Chase Bank regarding Gonzalez's loan.
3. On August 9, 2011, Gonzalez entered into a written fee agreement with Respondent for the representation which provided that Gonzalez was hiring Respondent to work on Gonzalez's property for the purpose of obtaining a "work out plan" with Gonzalez's lender and that the "work out settlement" could include one or more of the following: Loss Work Out (defined as a new agreement between the lender and borrower which could include a reduction of the loan interest rate, principal balance or length of the loan, resulting in reduced monthly payments); Repayment Plan; Forbearance Agreement; Pre-Foreclosure Sale; Deed In Lieu of Foreclosure; Offer in Compromise and Eviction Delay.
4. In or about August 2011, Gonzalez advanced \$1,995 to Respondent as fees for the representation, before Respondent completed any services for Gonzalez.
5. On March 23, 2012, Respondent submitted a loan modification request to Chase Bank.
6. In December 2013, Gonzalez complained to the State Bar that Respondent owed Gonzalez a refund of fees. After Respondent was contacted by the State Bar to respond to Gonzalez's complaint via a letter dated February 4, 2014, Respondent contacted Gonzalez on February 12 and 14, 2014, and offered to return the \$1,995 Gonzalez paid as fees in exchange for Gonzalez withdrawing his State Bar complaint.
7. Gonzalez agreed to withdraw his complaint and in February 2014, Respondent returned \$1,995 to Gonzalez.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

8. By agreeing to negotiate a mortgage loan modification for Gonzalez and collecting fees from Gonzalez when Respondent had not completed all loan modification services he had agreed to perform, Respondent offered to perform a mortgage loan modification for a fee paid by the borrower, and collected such fee prior to fully performing each and every service Respondent had contracted to perform or represented that he would perform in violation of section 2944.7(a)(1) of the Civil Code, and thereby wilfully violated Business and Professions Code section 6106.3(a).
9. By contacting Gonzalez on February 12 and 14, 2014, and offering to return the \$1,995 Gonzalez paid as fees in exchange for Gonzalez withdrawing his State Bar complaint, Respondent, while acting as a party, agreed with and sought an agreement from Gonzalez that he withdraw his pending disciplinary complaint against Respondent with the State Bar in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6090.5(a)(2).

AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Prior Record of Discipline (Std. 1.5(a)):

Case No. 96-O-00634

Effective June 15, 1997, Respondent was publicly reprovved. Respondent stipulated to violations of Rules of Professional Conduct, rules 3-310(B) (failure to obtain informed consent in writing to representation of clients whose interests conflict) and 3-300 (entering into an agreement to represent adverse interests without adequate disclosure) arising from drafting a general partnership agreement. There were no aggravating factors. Respondent's lack of prior discipline was a mitigating factor.

Case No. 12-O-17916

Effective November 28, 2013, Respondent was suspended for one year, stayed, and placed on one year of probation. Respondent stipulated to misconduct in one client matter in 2012. Between January 23 and May 29, 2012, Respondent received \$4,000 in advanced fees from a couple for loan modification services related to two properties in violation of state law. On May 15, 2013, he refunded the money. In mitigation, Respondent entered into a pre-filing stipulation with the State Bar in June 2013 and had volunteered with charitable organizations. Respondent's prior record of discipline in case no. 96-O-00634 was an aggravating factor.

Additional Aggravating Circumstance

Violation committed while on disciplinary probation.

Respondent's offer to return illegally collected fees on February 12 and 14, 2014, in exchange for the withdrawal of the State Bar complaint against Respondent, occurred after he stipulated to misconduct in case no. 12-O-17916 and after the effective date of his discipline in that matter of November 28, 2013. Respondent was on disciplinary probation when he committed his violation and while he was reporting to the Office of Probation that he had been in compliance with the State Bar Act, particularly in his report filed on April 3, 2014, which demonstrates an unwillingness or

inability to comply with disciplinary orders. (See, e.g., *Greenbaum v. State Bar* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 543, 551 [progressive discipline warranted in attorney's third disciplinary proceeding involving commingling and/or willful misappropriation committed while serving disciplinary probation for similar misconduct].)

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Additional Mitigating Circumstances

Good Character

Respondent has participated in Prison Fellowship Ministries and their Angel Tree program since 2005. The program delivers presents through local churches to the children of the families of those who been incarcerated and provides mentoring and camping programs at two to three camps each year at Calicinto Ranch in San Jacinto. Respondent has also worked with Stepping Stones, which is a school in Cathedral City, California, for the last three years. This is a school which serves the needs of children who have not been able to remain in public school, or seek alternative means of education. The school offers an after school program for the children who attend this school. Respondent and others train them in boxing, weight training, and conditioning. Respondent and his son train with the students two to three afternoons a week in the after school training programs. Civic service and charitable work can be mitigation as evidence of good character. (*In the Matter of Respondent K* (Review Dept. 1993) 2 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 335,359. *Porter v. State Bar* (1990) 52 Cal. 3D 518, 529.)

Pre-Filing Stipulation

Respondent has admitted the misconduct and entered into this stipulation fully resolving this matter Respondent's cooperation at this early stage has saved the State Bar significant resources and time. (*Silva-Vidor v. State Bar* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 1071,1079 [where mitigating credit was given for entering into a stipulation as to facts and culpability]).

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

The Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct "set forth a means for determining the appropriate disciplinary sanction in a particular case and to ensure consistency across cases dealing with similar misconduct and surrounding circumstances." (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, std. 1.1. All further references to Standards are to this source.) The Standards help fulfill the primary purposes of discipline, which include: protection of the public, the courts and the legal profession; maintenance of the highest professional standards; and preservation of public confidence in the legal profession. (See std. 1.1; *In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184, 205.)

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.) If a recommendation is at the high end or low end of a Standard, an explanation must be given as to how the recommendation was reached. (Std. 1.1.)

“Any disciplinary recommendation that deviates from the Standards must include clear reasons for the departure.” (Std. 1.1; *Blair v. State Bar* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 762, 776, fn. 5.)

In determining whether to impose a sanction greater or less than that specified in a given Standard, in addition to the factors set forth in the specific Standard, consideration is to be given to the primary purposes of discipline; the balancing of all aggravating and mitigating circumstances; the type of misconduct at issue; whether the client, public, legal system or profession was harmed; and the member’s willingness and ability to conform to ethical responsibilities in the future. (Stds. 1.7(b) and (c).)

In this matter, Respondent admits to committing two acts of professional misconduct. Standard 1.7(a) requires that where a Respondent “commits two or more acts of misconduct and the Standards specify different sanctions for each act, the most severe sanction must be imposed.”

The most severe sanction applicable to Respondent’s misconduct is found in Standard 2.14, which applies to Respondent’s violation of Business and Professions Code section 6106.3. Standard 2.14 provides that disbarment or actual suspension is appropriate for any violation of a provision of Article 6 of the Business and Professions Code, not otherwise specified in the Standards.

Standard 1.8(b) provides that if a member has two or more prior records of discipline, disbarment is appropriate in the following circumstances, unless the most compelling mitigating circumstances clearly predominate or the misconduct underlying the prior discipline occurred during the same time period as the current misconduct:

1. Actual suspension was ordered in any one of the prior disciplinary matters;
2. The prior disciplinary matters coupled with the current record demonstrate a pattern of misconduct; or
3. The prior disciplinary matters coupled with the current record demonstrate the member’s unwillingness or inability to conform to ethical responsibilities.

Disbarment is not warranted as the gravamen of Respondent’s misconduct, his acceptance of advanced fees for loan modification services, occurred in August 2011, before his misconduct in accepting advanced fees for loan modification services between January 23 and May 29, 2012 in case no. 12-O-17916 and before he was disciplined for that misconduct. Thus, Respondent did not have the “opportunity to ‘heed the import of that discipline.’ [Citation.]” (*In the Matter of Hagen* (Review Dept. 1992) 2 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 153, 171.) The aggravating force of prior discipline is diminished if the misconduct occurred during the same period as the misconduct in the prior matters. (*In the Matter of Sklar* (Review Dept. 1993) 2 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 602, 619.) It is appropriate to consider what the discipline would have been if all the charged misconduct during the time period had been brought as one case. (*Ibid.*)

Yet not all of Respondent’s present misconduct predated his last discipline. Respondent’s offer to return illegally collected fees on February 12 and 14, 2014, in exchange for the withdrawal of the State Bar complaint against Respondent, occurred after he stipulated to misconduct in case no. 12-O-17916 and after the effective date of his discipline in that matter of November 28, 2013. Such misconduct is serious in that Respondent was on disciplinary probation at the time of the misconduct and while he was reporting to the Office of Probation that he had been in compliance with the State Bar

Act, which demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to comply with disciplinary orders and warrants a period of actual suspension.

Thus, considering the totality of Respondent's misconduct and the mitigating and aggravating factors present, a 30-day actual suspension and a two-year stayed suspension and probation would have been warranted had this matter been resolved with Respondent's last discipline case. This recommendation is consistent with the applicable Standards and in *In the Matter of Taylor* (Review Dept. 2012) 5 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 221 [six-month actual suspension, and until restitution was paid, for collecting illegal fees in eight client loan modification matters with aggravating factors of significant harm to clients, multiple acts of misconduct, indifference toward rectification or atonement for the misconduct, and lack of remorse, and modest mitigation for good character].

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

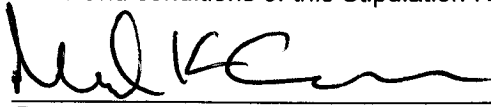
Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed Respondent that as of July 9, 2014, the prosecution costs in this matter are \$2,992. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

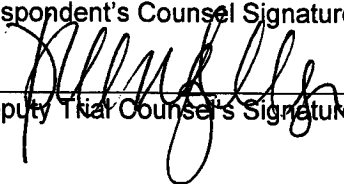
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In the Matter of: Michael King Groves	Case number(s): 13-O-17617
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SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES

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>2/16/14</u>		<u>Michael K. Groves</u>
Date	Respondent's Signature	Print Name

<u>7/18/14</u>	<u>Respondent's Counsel Signature</u>	<u>Print Name</u>
Date	 Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	<u>Diane J. Meyers</u> Print Name

(Do not write above this line.)

In the Matter of: Michael King Groves	Case Number(s): 13-O-17617
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ACTUAL SUSPENSION ORDER

Finding the stipulation to be fair to the parties and that it adequately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the requested dismissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED without prejudice, and:

- ☒ The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the Supreme Court.
- ☐ 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.

The parties are bound by the stipulation as approved unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed within 15 days after service of this order, is granted; or 2) this court modifies or further modifies the approved stipulation. (See rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Procedure.) **The effective date of this disposition is the effective date of the Supreme Court order herein, normally 30 days after file date. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of Court.)**

Date

August 8, 2014


Judge of the State Bar Court

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 San Francisco, on August 8, 2014, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

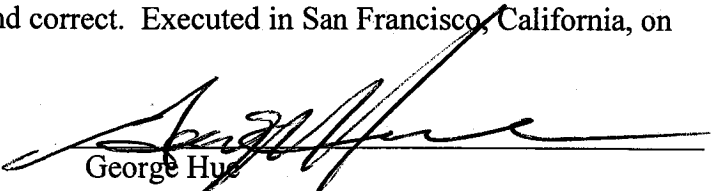
in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

- ☒ by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at San Francisco, California, addressed as follows:

MICHAEL KING GROVES
71339 SAHARA RD
RANCHO MIRAGE, CA 92270
- ☐ by certified mail, No. , with return receipt requested, through the United States Postal Service at , California, addressed as follows:
- ☐ by overnight mail at , California, addressed as follows:
- ☐ by fax transmission, at fax number . No error was reported by the fax machine that I used.
- ☐ By personal service by leaving the documents in a sealed envelope or package clearly labeled to identify the attorney being served with a receptionist or a person having charge of the attorney's office, addressed as follows:
- ☒ by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Diane J. Meyers, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on August 8, 2014.


George Hu
Case Administrator
State Bar Court