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Cari Donahue
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FILED

AUG 09 2016

STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES

9 **STATE BAR COURT**
10 **HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES**

11 In the Matter of
12 **CARI DONAHUE,**
13 No. 273436,
14
15 A Member of the State Bar.

) Case Nos.: 14-O-05402; 15-O-11752;
) 15-O-12438; 15-O-13507; 15-O-14533

) **ANSWER TO THE NOTICE OF**
) **DISCIPLINARY CHARGES**
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20 **TO: THE STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

21 Pursuant to Rule 5.41 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California, Respondent
22 Cari Donahue, by and through his attorney of record, Edward O. Lear, hereby submits the following
23 in response to the Notice of Disciplinary Charges on file herein:

24 Respondent was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California on December 6,
25 2010, and at all relevant times herein, has been a member of the State Bar of California.

26 Under the provisions of Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California, Respondent
27 hereby generally denies each and every allegation of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges and the
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1 whole thereof, and further denies that the Respondent has violated any Rule of Professional Conduct
2 in any manner whatsoever.

3 In response to the specific allegations on information and belief set forth in the Notice of
4 Disciplinary Charges on file herein, Respondent Cari Donahue asserts:

5 **JURISDICTION**

6 1. In response to Paragraph 1 of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges (“NDC”),
7 Respondent admits said allegations.

8 **COUNT ONE**

9 Case No. 14-O-05402

10 2. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 2 of the NDC because they are
11 conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection,
12 Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the NDC.

13 **COUNT TWO**

14 Case No. 14-O-05402

15 3. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 3 of the NDC because they are
16 conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection,
17 Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 3 of the NDC.

18 **COUNT THREE**

19 Case No. 15-O-11752

20 4. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 4 of the NDC because they are
21 conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection,
22 Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of the NDC.

23 **COUNT FOUR**

24 Case No. 15-O-11752

25 5. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 5 of the NDC because they are
26 conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection,
27 Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the NDC.

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COUNT FIVE

Case No. 15-O-12438

6. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 6 of the NDC because they are conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection, Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of the NDC.

COUNT SIX

Case No. 15-O-12438

7. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 7 of the NDC because they are conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection, Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 7 of the NDC.

COUNT SEVEN

Case No. 15-O-12438

8. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 8 of the NDC because they are conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection, Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 8 of the NDC.

COUNT EIGHT

Case No. 15-O-13507

9. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 9 of the NDC because they are conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection, Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 9 of the NDC.

COUNT NINE

Case No. 15-O-14533

10. Respondent objects to the allegations of Paragraph 10 of the NDC because they are conclusory, compound, and intertwined with legal conclusions. Notwithstanding said objection, Respondent denies the allegations contained in Paragraph 10 of the NDC.

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AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure to State Sufficient Facts)

The Notice of Disciplinary Charges, and each of its purported counts, fails to state facts sufficient to state a basis for discipline.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Duplicative Charges)

The Notice of Disciplinary Charges contains inappropriate, unnecessary, and immaterial duplicative charges. *Bates v. State Bar* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 1056, 1060; *In the Matter of Lilley* (Rev. Dept. 1991) 1 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 476, 585.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack of Materiality)

The facts on which some or all of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges are based allege immaterial or irrelevant omissions or statements.

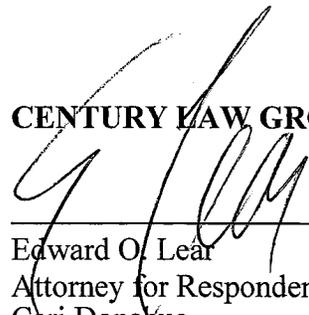
FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Charges Do Not Constitute Willful Misconduct)

The facts on which some or all of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges are based constitute mistake, inadvertence, neglect, or error and do not rise to the level of willful misconduct.

DATED: August 9, 2016

CENTURY LAW GROUP LLP



Edward O. Lear
Attorney for Respondent
Cari Donahue

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY PERSONAL SERVICE

Re: In The Matter of Cari Donahue

No.: 14-O-05402; 15-O-11752; 15-O-12438; 15-O-13507-15-O-14533

I, Kathy Ferrera, declare:

I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 5200 W. Century Blvd., Suite 345, Los Angeles, California 90045, in the County of Los Angeles.

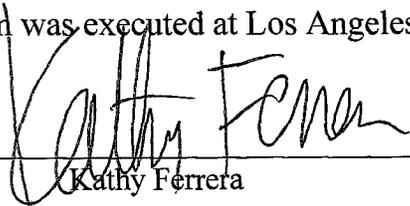
On August 9, 2016 I caused to be personally serve, the attached:

ANSWER TO THE NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

on:

William Todd Senior Trial Counsel State Bar of California 845 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90017	
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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and this declaration was executed at Los Angeles, California, on August 9, 2016.


Kathy Ferrera