

# PUBLIC MATTER

STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
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**FILED**

**OCT 07 2016**

STATE BAR COURT  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
LOS ANGELES

STATE BAR COURT

HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

In the Matter of: ) Case No. 15-H-15398  
GEOFFREY D. COMMONS, ) NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES  
No. 35884, )  
A Member of the State Bar. )

## 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. Geoffrey D. Commons ("Respondent") was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California on January 5, 1965, 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. 15-H-15398  
Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1-110  
[Failure to Comply with Repeal Conditions]

2. Respondent failed to comply with conditions attached to his public reprobation administered to Respondent by the State Bar in case nos. 14-C-01127 and 14-C-01128 as follows, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 1-110:

- a. Respondent failed to timely submit a quarterly report by the due date of July 10, 2015;
- b. Respondent failed to timely submit a compliant quarterly report by the due date of January 10, 2016;
- c. Respondent failed to submit quarterly reports by the due dates of October 10, 2015, and April 10, 2016;
- d. Respondent failed to submit a final report by the due date of April 30, 2016;
- e. Respondent failed to comply with all conditions of probation imposed in the underlying criminal matter, including attending anger management sessions and parenting classes;
- f. Respondent failed provide the Office of Probation proof of his attendance of anger management sessions by the due date of July 10, 2015; and
- g. Respondent failed to report all changes of contact information to the Membership Records Office of the State Bar within 10 days.

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**NOTICE - INACTIVE ENROLLMENT!**

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

**NOTICE - COST ASSESSMENT!**

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

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17 Respectfully submitted,

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

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21 DATED: October 7, 2016

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23 By: Michaela Carpio

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25 Michaela Carpio  
26 Deputy 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): 15-H-15398

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))
By U.S. Certified Mail: (CCP §§ 1013 and 1013(a))
By Overnight Delivery: (CCP §§ 1013(c) and 1013(d))
By Fax Transmission: (CCP §§ 1013(e) and 1013(f))
By Electronic Service: (CCP § 1010.6)

- (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.: 9414 7266 9904 2010 0762 92 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, and Electronic Address. Row 1: Geoffrey D. Commons, 122 Patrician Way Pasadena, CA 91105, Electronic Address.

via inter-office mail regularly processed and maintained by the State Bar of California addressed 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).

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: October 7, 2016

SIGNED: Sandra Reynolds
Sandra Reynolds
Declarant