



1 The State Bar of California alleges:

2 JURISDICTION

3 1. Bruce A. Thomason ("Respondent") was admitted to the practice of law in the State  
4 of California on June 6, 1989, was a member at all times pertinent to these charges, and is  
5 currently a member of the State Bar of California.

6 COUNT ONE

7 Case No. 15-O-12044  
8 Business & Professions Code section 6106.3  
9 [Violation of Civil Code section 2944.7(a)(1) - Illegal Advanced Fee]

10 2. On or about July 12, 2013, Respondent agreed to attempt to perform a mortgage loan  
11 modification or other mortgage loan forbearance for a fee for a client, Miguel Campos, and  
12 between on or about July 12, 2013 and on or about September 19, 2013, charged and collected  
13 \$3,900 from the client before Respondent had fully performed each and every service  
14 Respondent had been contracted to perform or represented to the client that Respondent would  
15 perform, in violation of Civil Code section 2944.7, and in willful violation of Business and  
16 Professions Code section 6106.3.

16 COUNT TWO

17 Case No. 15-O-12044  
18 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(1)  
19 [Failure to Release File]

20 3. Respondent failed to release promptly, after termination of Respondent's employment  
21 on or about December 4, 2014, to his client, Miguel Campos, all of the client's papers and  
22 property following the client's requests for the client's file on December 4 and 10, 2014, in  
23 willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(1).

23 COUNT THREE

24 Case No. 15-O-12044  
25 Business and Professions Code section 6068(i)  
26 [Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

27 4. Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending  
28 against him by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar's letters of June 12,

1 2015 and July 6, 2015, which Respondent received, that requested his response to the allegations  
2 of misconduct being investigated in case no. 15-O-12044, in willful violation of Business and  
3 Professions Code section 6068(i).

4 COUNT FOUR

5 Case No. 15-O-12360  
6 Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1-300(B)  
[Unauthorized Practice of Law in Other Jurisdiction]

7 5. From on or about March 27, 2014 through on or about June 5, 2014, Respondent  
8 practiced law in the State of Florida by agreeing to attempt to perform a mortgage loan  
9 modification or other mortgage loan forbearance for a fee for a client, Jjovanna Walton, when to  
10 do so was in violation of the regulations of the profession in the State of Florida, namely Florida  
11 Rule 4-5.5, which states, in part, that "a lawyer who is not admitted to practice in Florida shall  
12 not ... hold out to the public or otherwise represent that the lawyer is admitted to practice law in  
13 Florida," in willful violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 1-300(B).

14 COUNT FIVE

15 Case No. 15-O-12360  
16 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-200(A)  
[Illegal Fees]

17 Between on or about March 27, 2014 and on or about May 6, 2014, Respondent entered  
18 into an agreement to charge a client, Jjovanna Walton, legal fees of \$3,495 and thereafter,  
19 collected legal fees of \$2,330 from his client to perform a mortgage loan modification or other  
20 mortgage loan forbearance that was illegal because Respondent was not admitted to practice law  
21 in the State of Florida, which was where the client and real property were located, in willful  
22 violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-200(A).

23 COUNT SIX

24 Case No. 15-O-12360  
25 Business and Professions Code section 6068(i)  
[Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

26 6. Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending  
27 against him by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar's letters of June 29,  
28

1 2015 and July 22, 2015, which Respondent received, that requested Respondent's response to the  
2 allegations of misconduct being investigated in case no. 15-O-12360, in willful violation of  
3 Business and Professions Code section 6068(i).

4 COUNT SEVEN

5 Case No. 15-O-12374  
6 Business & Professions Code section 6106.3  
7 [Violation of Civil Code section 2944.7(a)(1) - Illegal Advanced Fee]

8 7. On or about June 26, 2013, Respondent agreed to attempt to perform a mortgage loan  
9 modification or other mortgage loan forbearance for a fee for a client, Kathryn Baracao, and on  
10 or about June 27, 2013, charged and collected \$2,747.50 from the client before Respondent had  
11 fully performed each and every service Respondent had been contracted to perform or  
12 represented to the client that Respondent would perform, in violation of Civil Code section  
13 2944.7, and in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6106.3.

14 COUNT EIGHT

15 Case No. 15-O-12374  
16 Business and Professions Code section 6104  
17 [Appearing for Party without Authority]

18 8. On or about July 22, 2013, Respondent corruptly or willfully, and without authority,  
19 appeared as attorney for his client, Kathryn Baracao, to an action or proceeding, namely filing a  
20 Chapter 13 Voluntary Petition on behalf of his client titled *In re Kathryn F. Baracao*, United  
21 States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California, Case No. 8:13-bk-16199-ES, in willful  
22 violation of Business and Professions Code section 6104.

23 COUNT NINE

24 Case No. 15-O-12374  
25 Business and Professions Code section 6068(i)  
26 [Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

27 9. Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending  
28 against him by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar's letters of July 20,  
2015 and August 6, 2015, which Respondent received, that requested his response to the

1 allegations of misconduct being investigated in case no. 15-O-12374, in willful violation of  
2 Business and Professions Code section 6068(i).

3 COUNT TEN

4 Case Nos. 15-O-12044, 15-O-12360, and 15-O-12374  
5 Business and Professions Code section 6068(j)  
6 [Failure to Update Membership Address]

7 10. In or about May 2015, Respondent vacated his office at the address maintained on the  
8 official membership records of the State Bar and thereafter failed to comply with the  
9 requirements of Business and Professions Code section 6002.1, by failing to notify the State Bar  
10 of the change in his address within 30 days, in willful violation of Business and Professions  
11 Code section 6068(j).

12 NOTICE - INACTIVE ENROLLMENT!

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

21 NOTICE - COST ASSESSMENT!

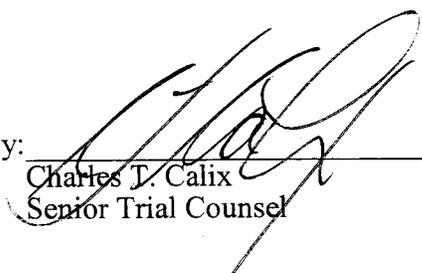
22 **IN THE EVENT THESE PROCEDURES RESULT IN PUBLIC  
23 DISCIPLINE, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF COSTS  
24 INCURRED BY THE STATE BAR IN THE INVESTIGATION, HEARING  
25 AND REVIEW OF THIS MATTER PURSUANT TO BUSINESS AND  
26 PROFESSIONS CODE SECTION 6086.10.**

27 Respectfully submitted,

28 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

DATED: December 15, 2015

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Charles T. Calix  
Senior Trial Counsel

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

by

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

CASE NUMBER(s): 15-O-12044, 15-O-12360, and 15-O-12374

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, 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.: 7196 9008 9111 1007 8417 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. Row 1: Bruce A. Thomason, Thomason Law Center 23272 Mill Creek Dr Ste 350 Laguna Hills, CA 92653, Electronic Address, Bruce A. Thomason Thomason Law Center 23272 Mill Creek Dr Ste 350 Laguna Hills, CA 92653

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

N/A

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 16, 2015

SIGNED:

Handwritten signature of Jason Peralta over a line, with 'Jason Peralta Declarant' printed below.