

PUBLIC MATTER

1 STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
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FILED

MAY 09 2016

STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES

STATE BAR COURT

HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

12 In the Matter of:) Case No. 15-O-14376
 13)
 14 JOHN B. STELLA,) NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES
 No. 46002,)
 15)
 16 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:

- 20 (1) **YOUR DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED;**
- 21 (2) **YOUR STATUS WILL BE CHANGED TO INACTIVE AND YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW;**
- 22 (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;**
- 23 (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. John B. Stella ("respondent") was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California on January 15, 1970, 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-O-14376

Business and Professions Code section 6106

[Moral Turpitude – Misrepresentation of MCLE Compliance]

2. On or about June 30, 2014, respondent falsely reported under the penalty of perjury to the State Bar that respondent had fully complied with respondent’s minimum continuing legal education (“MCLE”) requirements for the period of February 1, 2011 to January 31, 2014 (“compliance period”), when respondent knew, or was grossly negligent in not knowing, that respondent had failed to complete the MCLE requirements for the compliance period, and thereby committed an act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6106.

COUNT TWO

Case No. 15-O-14376

Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i)

[Failure to Cooperate in State Bar Investigation]

3. Respondent wilfully violated Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i), by failing to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending against respondent by failing to provide a substantive response to the State Bar’s letters of September 24, 2015 and December 9, 2015, which respondent received, that requested respondent’s response to the allegations of misconduct being investigated in case no. 15-O-14466, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(i).

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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 CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

DATED: May 6, 2016

By: 
Heather Meyers
Contract Attorney for the State Bar

