

FILED
AUG 31 2018

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1 Richard J. Mendelsohn, SB# 57788
2 MENDELSON & MENDELSON
3 317 Capitol Street
4 Salinas, CA 93901
5 (831) 757-3211

STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

10 **In the Matter of:**
11 **RICHARD JAMES MENDELSON**
12 **Member No. 57788**
13
14 **A member of the State Bar**

CASE No. 16-O-16352-LMA

ANSWER TO NOTICE OF
DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

16 Richard James Mendelsohn ("Member"), in answer to the Notice of Disciplinary
17 Charges on file herein, responds as follows:

- 18 1. In response to the first Paragraph (Jurisdiction), Member admits the allegation of
19 said paragraph.
20
21 2. In response to Paragraphs 2 thru 11, inclusive, Member denies each and every,
22 all and singular, generally and specifically, the allegations contained therein.

23
24 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 25 1. Member specifically denies that an attorney-client relationship ever existed between
26 himself and Paul Favero or Rex Favero.
27 2. Member specifically denies misappropriating any funds which were deposited to his
28 client trust account.

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3. Member alleges that the subject \$248,090.50 repeatedly referenced in the Notice of Charges was periodically released to his client, James Gillott (Gillott Ranches, LLC) pursuant to Mr. Gillott's express instructions which were expressly authorized by Paul and Rex Favero.

VERIFICATION

I am the Member in the above-entitled action or proceeding. I have read the foregoing Answer and know the contents thereof, and I certify that the same are true of my own knowledge. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: August 28, 2018


RICHARD JAMES MENDELSON

1 PROOF OF SERVICE

2 I am employed in the County of Monterey, California. My business address is
3 317 Capitol Street, Salinas, CA 93901. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to
4 the within action. On August 28, 2018, I served a copy of the following
5 document(s):

6 **ANSWER TO NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES**

7 on the following person(s), addressed as follows:

8
9 Bernadette Molina
10 Court Specialist to the
11 Honorable Lucy Armendariz
12 State Bar Court of California
13 180 Howard Street
14 Sixth (6th) Floor
15 San Francisco, CA 94105-1639
16 Fax (415) 538-2043

Erica L. M. Dennings
Senior Trial Counsel
State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1639
Fax (415) 538-2220

17 **BY FIRST CLASS MAIL:** I placed each sealed envelope, addressed as shown
18 above, with postage fully prepaid thereon, in the United States Mail at
19 Salinas, California, for collection and processing following the ordinary
20 business practice of this firm. Mail so deposited is collected daily by the
21 United States Postal Service.

22 **VIA FACSIMILE:** I caused each such document to be transmitted by
23 facsimile to the number indicated following the name and address of each
24 person shown above. In compliance with California Rules of Court, Rules
25 2003 and 2006(d), I caused the machine to print a transmission record
26 showing no error was reported, a copy of which is available upon request.

27 **HAND DELIVERY:** I caused each such document to be hand delivered to
28 each person shown above at the address noted for each.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California

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that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Salinas, California, on August 28, 2018.



Lisa Mendelsohn