State Bar Court of California **Hearing Department** San Francisco **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Counsel For The State Bar Case Number(s): For Court use only 17-0-01375 Carla L. Cheung **Deputy Trial Counsel PUBLIC MATTER 180 Howard Street** San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 538-2291 FILED Bar # 291562 AUG 1 4 2017 VVS In Pro Per Respondent Juliet M. Oberding 120 Lincoln Drive STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO Sausalito, CA 94965 (415) 448-7627 Submitted to: Settlement Judge Bar # 144776 STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING In the Matter of: **JULIET MONIQUE OBERDING ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Bar # 144776 ☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)

Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, must be set forth in an attachment to this stipulation under specific headings, e.g., "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law," "Supporting Authority," etc.

A. Parties' Acknowledgments:

- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted **December 18, 1989**.
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court.
- (3) All investigations or proceedings listed by case number in the caption of this stipulation are entirely resolved by this stipulation and are deemed consolidated. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation consists of **10** pages, not including the order.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."
- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law".

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(Effective July 1, 2015)

(Do n	ot wri	te above this line.)							
(8)		Harm: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public, or the administration of justice.							
(9)		Indifference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the							
(10)		consequences of his or her misconduct. Candor/Lack of Cooperation: Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of his/her misconduct, or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigations or proceedings.							
(11)	\boxtimes	Multiple Acts: Respondent's current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing. See attachment, page 8.							
(12)		Pattern: Respondent's current misconduct demonstrates a pattern of misconduct.							
(13)		Restitution: Respondent failed to make restitution.							
(14)		Vulnerable Victim: The victim(s) of Respondent's misconduct was/were highly vulnerable.							
(15)		No aggravating circumstances are involved.							
Addi		al aggravating circumstances:							
C. M	litig ircu	ating Circumstances [see standards 1.2(i) & 1.6]. Facts supporting mitigating mstances are required.							
(1)		No Prior Discipline: Respondent has no prior record of discipline over many years of practice coupled with present misconduct which is not likely to recur.							
(2)		No Harm: Respondent did not harm the client, the public, or the administration of justice.							
(3)		Candor/Cooperation: Respondent displayed spontaneous candor and cooperation with the victims of his/her misconduct or `to the State Bar during disciplinary investigations and proceedings.							
(4)		Remorse: Respondent promptly took objective steps demonstrating spontaneous remorse and recognition of the wrongdoing, which steps were designed to timely atone for any consequences of his/her misconduct.							
(5)		Restitution: Respondent paid \$ on in restitution to without the threat or force of disciplinary, civil or criminal proceedings.							
(6)		Delay: These disciplinary proceedings were excessively delayed. The delay is not attributable to Respondent and the delay prejudiced him/her.							
(7)		Good Faith: Respondent acted with a good faith belief that was honestly held and objectively reasonable.							
(8)		Emotional/Physical Difficulties: At the time of the stipulated act or acts of professional misconduct Respondent suffered extreme emotional difficulties or physical or mental disabilities which expert testimony would establish was directly responsible for the misconduct. The difficulties or disabilities were not the product of any illegal conduct by the member, such as illegal drug or substance abuse, and the difficulties or disabilities no longer pose a risk that Respondent will commit misconduct.							

(Do II	Ot Wri	le abo	ve trus i	ne.)					
(9)		whi	Severe Financial Stress: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered from severe financial stress which resulted from circumstances not reasonably foreseeable or which were beyond his/her control and which were directly responsible for the misconduct.						
(10)		Far per	Family Problems: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered extreme difficulties in his/her personal life which were other than emotional or physical in nature.						
(11)		God in th	od Cha ne lega	aracter: Respondent's extraordinarily good character is attested to by a wide range of references at and general communities who are aware of the full extent of his/her misconduct.					
(12)		Reh follo	abilita wed b	ation: Considerable time has passed since the acts of professional misconduct occurred by convincing proof of subsequent rehabilitation.					
(13)		No	mitiga	ting circumstances are involved.					
Addi	tion	al mi	tigatin	g circumstances:					
	P	refili	ng Sti	pulation. See attachment, page 8.					
D. D	isci	iplin	e:						
(1)	\boxtimes	Stay	∕ed Sι	uspension:					
	(a)	\boxtimes	Resp	pondent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year.					
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the general law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1) Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.					
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.					
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:					
	(b)	\boxtimes	The a	above-referenced suspension is stayed.					
(2)	\boxtimes	Probation:							
	Res of th	pond ie Su	ent mu preme	ust be placed on probation for a period of one year , which will commence upon the effective date Court order in this matter. (See rule 9.18, California Rules of Court)					
(3) 🛮 Actual Suspension:									
	(a)	\boxtimes	Resp of 90	ondent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period days.					
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the general law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct					
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.					
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:					

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 Additi	onal	Con	aitions	OT	Probation:

(1)		If Respondent is actually suspended for two years or more, he/she must remain actually suspended until he/she proves to the State Bar Court his/her rehabilitation, fitness to practice, and present learning and ability in the general law, pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.						
(2)	\boxtimes	During the probation period, Respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act and Rules of Professional Conduct.						
(3)	\boxtimes	Within ten (10) days of any change, Respondent must report to the Membership Records Office of the State Bar and to the Office of Probation of the State Bar of California ("Office of Probation"), all changes of information, including current office address and telephone number, or other address for State Bar purposes, as prescribed by section 6002.1 of the Business and Professions Code.						
(4)	\boxtimes	Within thirty (30) days from the effective date of discipline, Respondent must contact the Office of Probation and schedule a meeting with Respondent's assigned probation deputy to discuss these terms and conditions of probation. Upon the direction of the Office of Probation, Respondent must meet with the probation deputy either in-person or by telephone. During the period of probation, Respondent must promptly meet with the probation deputy as directed and upon request.						
(5)		Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation on each January 10, April 10, July 10, and October 10 of the period of probation. Under penalty of perjury, Respondent must state whether Respondent has complied with the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and all conditions of probation during the preceding calendar quarter. Respondent must also state whether there are any proceedings pending against him or her in the State Bar Court and if so, the case number and current status of that proceeding. If the first report would cover less than 30 days, that report must be submitted on the next quarter date, and cover the extended period.						
		In addition to all quarterly reports, a final report, containing the same information, is due no earlier than twenty (20) days before the last day of the period of probation and no later than the last day of probation.						
(6)		Respondent must be assigned a probation monitor. Respondent must promptly review the terms and conditions of probation with the probation monitor to establish a manner and schedule of compliance. During the period of probation, Respondent must furnish to the monitor such reports as may be requested, in addition to the quarterly reports required to be submitted to the Office of Probation. Respondent must cooperate fully with the probation monitor.						
(7)	\boxtimes	Subject to assertion of applicable privileges, Respondent must answer fully, promptly and truthfully any inquiries of the Office of Probation and any probation monitor assigned under these conditions which are directed to Respondent personally or in writing relating to whether Respondent is complying or has complied with the probation conditions.						
(8)		Within one (1) year of the effective date of the discipline herein, Respondent must provide to the Office of Probation satisfactory proof of attendance at a session of the Ethics School, and passage of the test given at the end of that session.						
		No Ethics School recommended. Reason: Respondent attended Ethics School on July 11, 2017, and passed the test given at the end of the session. (See rule 5.135(A), Rules of Proc. of State Bar [attendance at Ethics School not required where the attorney completed Ethics School within the prior two years].						
(9)		Respondent must comply with all conditions of probation imposed in the underlying criminal matter and must so declare under penalty of perjury in conjunction with any quarterly report to be filed with the Office of Probation.						

(Do no	ot write	above	this line.)					
(10)		100	The following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:					
			Substance Abuse Conditions		Law Office Management Conditions			
			Medical Conditions		Financial Conditions			
F. 0	ther	Con	ditions Negotiated by the Parties	s:				
(1)	Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination: Respondent must provide proof of passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE"), administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to the Office of Probation during the period of actual suspension or within one year, whichever period is longer. Failure to pass the MPRE results in actual suspension withor further hearing until passage. But see rule 9.10(b), California Rules of Court, and rule 5.162(A) & (E), Rules of Procedure.							
previ								
(2)	\boxtimes	Calif	Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: Respondent must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.					
(3)		Conditional Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: If Respondent remains actually suspended for 90 days or more, he/she must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20 , California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 120 and 130 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.						
(4)		Credit for Interim Suspension [conviction referral cases only]: Respondent will be credited for the period of his/her interim suspension toward the stipulated period of actual suspension. Date of commencement of interim suspension:						
(5)		Othe	er Conditions:					

ATTACHMENT TO

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF:

JULIET M. OBERDING

CASE NUMBER:

17-0-01375

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that she is culpable of violations of the specified statutes and/or Rules of Professional Conduct.

Case No. 17-O-01375 (State Bar Investigation)

FACTS:

- 1. On June 18, 2015, the State Bar Court issued an Order Approving a Stipulation Re Facts, Conclusions of Law and Disposition in Case No. 14-O-05179 and recommended to the Supreme Court that respondent be actually suspended for 30 days, with a one-year stayed suspension and one year of probation, with conditions. In the Stipulation, respondent admitted to violating Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A), and Business and Professions Code section 6106, based on a failure to perform in a client matter and making misrepresentations to the client. On October 20, 2015, the Supreme Court issued an order in Case No. S228456, imposing the discipline recommended by the State Bar Court. The discipline became effective November 19, 2015.
 - 2. As part of respondent's probation conditions, she was required to do the following:
 - a. Within one year of the effective date of the Order, respondent must provide Probation with satisfactory proof of attendance at a session of State Bar Ethics School, and passage of the test given at the end of that session.
 - b. Within one year of the effective date of the Order, respondent must submit a written final report to Probation attesting to respondent's compliance with all conditions of her probation, no later than the last day of the condition period.
- 3. Respondent was required to complete the Ethics School condition by November 19, 2016, but respondent did not submit proof of attendance until July 24, 2017. Consequently, respondent was approximately eight months late in complying with the condition.
- 4. Respondent was required to comply with the written final report condition by November 19, 2016, but respondent did not submit a written final report until November 21, 2016. Consequently, respondent was two days late in complying with the condition.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

5. By failing to submit satisfactory proof of attendance at a session of State Bar Ethics School, and passage of the test given at the end of that session by November 19, 2016, and by failing to submit a written final report to Probation by November 19, 2016, respondent failed to comply with the conditions attached to respondent's disciplinary probation, in wilful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(k).

AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Prior Record of Discipline (Std. 1.5(a)): Respondent stipulated to a 30-day actual suspension for misconduct in a client matter in which she violated Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A), and Business and Professions Code section 6106, by failing to promptly file a trademark application and making misrepresentations to the client. In aggravation, respondent stipulated to having committed multiple acts of misconduct. In mitigation, respondent received credit for having practiced law for 23 years with no prior record of discipline and for entering into a pre-filing, dispositive stipulation.

Multiple Acts of Wrongdoing (Std. 1.5(b)): Respondent violated two conditions of her probation, which constitute multiple acts of misconduct.

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Prefiling Stipulation: By entering into this stipulation, respondent has acknowledged misconduct and is entitled to mitigation for recognition of wrongdoing and saving the State Bar significant resources and time. (Silva-Vidor v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 1071, 1079 [where mitigative credit was given for entering into a stipulation as to facts and culpability]; In the Matter of Spaith (Review Dept. 1996) 3 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 511, 521 [where the attorney's stipulation to facts and culpability was held to be a mitigating circumstance].)

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

The Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct "set forth a means for determining the appropriate disciplinary sanction in a particular case and to ensure consistency across cases dealing with similar misconduct and surrounding circumstances." (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, std. 1.1. All further references to standards are to this source.) The standards help fulfill the primary purposes of discipline, which include: protection of the public, the courts and the legal profession; maintenance of the highest professional standards; and preservation of public confidence in the legal profession. (See std. 1.1; *In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184, 205.)

Although not binding, the standards are entitled to "great weight" and should be followed "whenever possible" in determining level of discipline. (In re Silverton (2005) 36 Cal.4th 81, 92, quoting In re Brown (1995) 12 Cal.4th 205, 220 and In re Young (1989) 49 Cal.3d 257, 267, fn. 11.) Adherence to the standards in the great majority of cases serves the valuable purpose of eliminating disparity and assuring consistency, that is, the imposition of similar attorney discipline for instances of similar attorney misconduct. (In re Naney (1990) 51 Cal.3d 186, 190.) If a recommendation is at the high end or low end of a standard, an explanation must be given as to how the recommendation was reached. (Std. 1.1.) "Any disciplinary recommendation that deviates from the Standards must include clear reasons for the departure." (Std. 1.1; Blair v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 762, 776, fn. 5.)

In determining whether to impose a sanction greater or less than that specified in a given standard, in addition to the factors set forth in the specific standard, consideration is to be given to the primary purposes of discipline; the balancing of all aggravating and mitigating circumstances; the type of misconduct at issue; whether the client, public, legal system or profession was harmed; and the member's willingness and ability to conform to ethical responsibilities in the future. (Stds. 1.7(b) and (c).)

Here, respondent failed to comply with two conditions attached to her probation. She has since fulfilled both probation conditions. Standard 2.14 provides: "Actual suspension is the presumed sanction for failing to comply with a condition of discipline. The degree of sanction depends on the nature of the condition violated and the member's unwillingness or inability to comply with disciplinary orders." Additionally, Standard 1.8(a) applies because of respondent's prior record of discipline. Standard 1.8(a) provides: "If a member has a single prior record of discipline, the sanction must be greater than the previously imposed sanction unless the prior discipline was so remote in time and the previous misconduct was not serious enough that imposing greater discipline would be manifestly unjust."

Respondent's prior misconduct was serious and not remote in time since it occurred between 2012 and 2014. Therefore, the level of respondent's discipline in this matter should be greater than a 30-day actual suspension. In aggravation, respondent has a prior record of discipline and committed multiple acts of misconduct. Respondent is entitled to mitigation for entering into a prefiling stipulation. On balance, discipline in the mid-range recommended by the Standards- a 90-day actual suspension- is warranted.

Case law is instructive. In *Conroy v. State Bar* (1990) 51. Cal. 3d 799, the attorney violated the conditions of his private reproval by failing to take and pass the MPRE within one year of the effective date of the reproval. The attorney completed the examination at the first opportunity thereafter. The court found that the attorney's misconduct was aggravated by his one prior record of discipline, as well as his failure to participate in the disciplinary proceedings at the Hearing Department level. However, the court gave significant mitigation for the attorney's eventual, although untimely, fulfillment of the MPRE requirement. The California Supreme Court imposed discipline consisting of a 60-day actual suspension.

Here, the level of discipline should be comparably higher than in *Conroy*, because that attorney's prior discipline was a private reproval and respondent's prior discipline was a 30-day actual suspension. Additionally, the attorney in *Conroy* violated one condition of his reproval, whereas respondent violated two violations of her probation, thereby constituting multiple acts of misconduct – an aggravating factor not found in *Conroy*. In light of the foregoing, a 90-day actual suspension with a one-year stayed suspension and one-year probationary period will serve the purposes of attorney discipline.

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of July 25, 2017, the discipline costs in this matter are \$3,215. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

SUPREME COURT FILED

OCT 20 2015

(State Bar Court No. 14-O-05179)

Frank A. McGuire Clerk

Deputy

S228456

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

En Banc

In re JULIET MONIQUE OBERDING on Discipline

The court orders that Juliet Monique Oberding, State Bar Number 144776, is suspended from the practice of law in California for one year, execution of that period of suspension is stayed, and she is placed on probation for one year subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Juliet Monique Oberding is suspended from the practice of law for the first 30 days of probation;
- 2. Juliet Monique Oberding must comply with the other conditions of probation recommended by the Hearing Department of the State Bar Court in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on June 18, 2015; and
- 3. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Juliet Monique Oberding has complied with all conditions of probation, the period of stayed suspension will be satisfied and that suspension will be terminated.

Juliet Monique Oberding must also take and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination within one year after the effective date of this order and provide satisfactory proof of such passage to the State Bar's Office of Probation in Los Angeles within the same period. Failure to do so may result in suspension. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment. One-half of the costs must be paid with her membership fees for each of the years 2016 and 2017. If Juliet Monique Oberding fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar Court, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately.

I, Frank A. McGuire. Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of California, do hereby certify that the preceding is a true copy of an order of this Court as shown by the records of my office.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Court this

CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Chief Justice

OF day of

By:

(Do not write above this line.)

State Bar Court of California **Hearing Department** PUBLIC MATTER Los Angeles **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Counsel For The State Bar Case Number(s): For Court use only 14-0-05179 William Todd **Deputy Trial Counsel** 845 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles, California 90017 213-765-1491 FILED JUN 1 8 2015 Bar # 259194 STATE BAR COURT In Pro Per Respondent CLERK'S OFFICE LOS ANGELES Juliet M. Oberding 120 Lincoln Drive Sausalito, California 94965 415-465-3357 Submitted to: Settlement Judge Bar # 144776 STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING In the Matter of: JULIET MONIQUE OBERDING **ACTUAL SUSPENSION** Bar # 144776 ☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)

Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, must be set forth in an attachment to this stipulation under specific headings, e.g., "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law," "Supporting Authority," etc.

A. Parties' Acknowledgments:

- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted **December 18, 1989**.
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court.
- (3) All investigations or proceedings listed by case number in the caption of this stipulation are entirely resolved by this stipulation and are deemed consolidated. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation consists of 11 pages, not including the order.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."
- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law".

(Effective January 1, 2014)

<u>(C</u>	o not	write	above this line.)							
(6	3)	The "Sup	The parties must include supporting authority for the recommended level of discipline under the heading Supporting Authority."							
(7) 	No more than 30 days prior to the filing of this stipulation, Respondent has been advised in writing of any pending investigation/proceeding not resolved by this stipulation, except for criminal investigations.								
(8) I	ment of Disciplinary Costs—Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & 0.7. (Check one option only):								
	-		Until costs are paid in full, Respondent will remain actually suspended from the practice of law unler relief is obtained per rule 5.130, Rules of Procedure. Costs are to be paid in equal amounts prior to February 1 for the following membership years: the billing cycles immediately following the Supreme Court order in this matter. (Hardship, specific circumstances or other good cause per rule 5.132, Rules of Procedure.) If Respondent fails to pay installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar Court, the remaining balandue and payable immediately. Costs are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs".							
	Agg Mis req	CO	vating Circumstances [Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional nduct, standards 1.2(f) & 1.5]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are ed.							
(1)	(a)		rior record of discipline State Bar Court case # of prior case							
	(b)) [Date prior discipline effective							
	(c)		Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations:							
	(d)		Degree of prior discipline							
	(e)	Ε	If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below.							
(2)		als	shonesty: Respondent's misconduct was intentional, surrounded by, or followed by bad faith, shonesty, concealment, overreaching or other violations of the State Bar Act or Rules of Professional anduct.							
(3)		(O	ust Violation: Trust funds or property were involved and Respondent refused or was unable to account the client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or operty.							
(4)		На	rm: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public or the administration of justice.							
5)		lnc	lifference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the nsequences of his or her misconduct.							
6)		La c mis	Lack of Cooperation: Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of his/her misconduct or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation or proceedings.							

current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing see "Attachment to Stipulation," at page 8.							
n. ·							
(g) & 1.6]. Facts supporting mitigating							
cord of discipline over many years of practice coupled ous.							
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Ad	dditic	nal n	nitigat	ing circumstances:		
		Pleas	se see	e "No Prior Discipline" in "Attachment to Stipulation," at page 8.		
			,	"Prefiling Stipulation" in "Attachment to Stipulation," at page 8.		
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		cipli -		,		
(1)		Sta	ayed S	Suspension:		
	(a) 🛛	Res	spondent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year.		
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and present fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1) Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.		
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.		
		iii.	П	and until Respondent does the following:		
	(b)		The	above-referenced suspension is stayed.		
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	Re of t	spond the Su	dent m	nust be placed on probation for a period of one year , which will commence upon the effective date e Court order in this matter. (See rule 9.18, California Rules of Court)		
(3)	\boxtimes	Act	ual Su	spension:		
	(a)	\boxtimes	Resport 30	condent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period days.		
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and present fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct		
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.		
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		ini pu	formation, including current rposes, as prescribed by se	office address ection 6002.1 o	and tel	ephone number, or other address for State Bar usiness and Professions Code.				
(5)		Within thirty (30) days from the effective date of discipline, Respondent must contact the Office of Pland schedule a meeting with Respondent's assigned probation deputy to discuss these terms and conditions of probation. Upon the direction of the Office of Probation, Respondent must meet with the probation deputy either in-person or by telephone. During the period of probation, Respondent must promptly meet with the probation deputy as directed and upon request. Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation on each January 10, Ap July 10, and October 10 of the period of probation. Under penalty of perjury, Respondent must state whether Respondent has complied with the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and acconditions of probation during the preceding calendar quarter. Respondent must also state whether are any proceedings pending against him or her in the State Bar Court and if so, the case number are current status of that proceeding. If the first report would cover less than 30 days, that report must be submitted on the next quarter date, and cover the extended period.								
		In a	nddition to all quarterly repo nty (20) days before the las	rts, a final repo at day of the pe	rt, cont riod of	aining the same information, is due no earlier than probation and no later than the last day of probation.				
(6)		Dur in a	Respondent must be assigned a probation monitor. Respondent must promptly review the terms and conditions of probation with the probation monitor to establish a manner and schedule of compliance. During the period of probation, Respondent must furnish to the monitor such reports as may be requested in addition to the quarterly reports required to be submitted to the Office of Probation. Respondent must cooperate fully with the probation monitor.							
(7)	\boxtimes	dire	Subject to assertion of applicable privileges, Respondent must answer fully, promptly and truthfully any inquiries of the Office of Probation and any probation monitor assigned under these conditions which are directed to Respondent personally or in writing relating to whether Respondent is complying or has complied with the probation conditions.							
(8)	\boxtimes	LION	Within one (1) year of the effective date of the discipline herein, Respondent must provide to the Office of Probation satisfactory proof of attendance at a session of the Ethics School, and passage of the test given at the end of that session.							
			□ No Ethics School recommended. Reason:							
(9)		Respondent must comply with all conditions of probation imposed in the underlying criminal matter and must so declare under penalty of perjury in conjunction with any quarterly report to be filed with the Office of Probation.								
(10)		The f	following conditions are atta	ached hereto ar	nd inco	porated:				
			Substance Abuse Condition	ons		Law Office Management Conditions				
	٠		Medical Conditions			Financial Conditions				
F. Of	ther	Con	ditions Negotiated b	y the Parties) :	* **				
(1)		Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination: Respondent must provide proof of passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination ("MPRE"), administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to the Office of Probation during the period of actual suspension or within one year, whichever period is longer. Failure to pass the MPRE results in actual suspension without further hearing until passage. But see rule 9.10(b), California Rules of Court, and rule 5.162(A) & (E), Rules of Procedure.								

(Do n	ot write	above this line.)
		☐ No MPRE recommended. Reason:
(2)		Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: Respondent must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.
(3)		Conditional Rule 9.20, California Rules of Court: If Respondent remains actually suspended for 90 days or more, he/she must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20, California Rules of Court, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 120 and 130 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.
(4)		Credit for Interim Suspension [conviction referral cases only]: Respondent will be credited for the period of his/her interim suspension toward the stipulated period of actual suspension. Date of commencement of interim suspension:
(5)		Other Conditions:

ATTACHMENT TO

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF:

JULIET MONIQUE OBERDING

CASE NUMBER:

14-0-05179

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that he is culpable of violations of the specified statutes and/or Rules of Professional Conduct.

Case No. 14-O-05179 (Complainant: Amy Berg)

FACTS:

- 1. On March 27, 2012, Amy Berg ("Berg") hired Respondent to complete and file a trademark application with the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") for Berg's business name and logo. Berg paid Respondent \$1,150 for the trademark application service on May 10, 2012.
- 2. On June 23, 2012, Berg e-mailed Respondent for a status update on the trademark application. Respondent's e-mailed reply claimed, "everything is great." However, Respondent had yet to file Berg's trademark application with the USPTO.
- 3. On September 18, 2012, Berg called Respondent by telephone and left a voice message. Respondent replied by e-mail as follows: "Thanks for your call. It generally runs 6 to 9 months for a trademark. I'll let you know as soon as I hear anything." However, Respondent had yet to file Berg's trademark application with the USPTO.
- 4. On May 23, 2013, Berg contacted Respondent via e-mail for a progress update on Berg's trademark. Respondent's reply claimed the "USPTO is taking a lot longer processing trademarks than they (sic) have in the past." However, Respondent had yet to file Berg's trademark application with the USPTO.
 - 5. On March 5, 2014, Berg e-mailed Respondent. Berg's e-mail read as follows:

We are just a few months away from coming up on two years in the trademark process. I'm slightly concerned. Hoping you might be able to put my mind at ease. I know originally you mentioned 6-9 months and it (sic) that lately it's been taking longer than everyone has anticipated. However I've had many others with not this lengthy experience. Wondering what might be the situation. Thanks for your time.

6. On March 6, 2014, Respondent responded to Berg's March 5, 2014 e-mail. Though Respondent had yet to file the trademark application with the USPTO, Respondent claimed the following:

The USPTO has been a lot quicker in the last year. I have trademarks currently clearing at six months. I will make sure that your trademark goes through immediately.

Please bear with me until the end of the month. If your trademark is not finalized by then I will refund your payment minus the USPTO fee.

- 7. On March 30, 2014, Respondent filed Berg's trademark application, the same application she had agreed to file more than two years prior.
- 8. On May 23, 2014, Berg reviewed the USPTO website and confirmed that Respondent filed Berg's trademark application on March 30, 2014. Berg then called the USPTO, who advised her that the March 30, 2014 filing by Respondent was a new filing that an attorney would review within three months, with approval granted within the following year.
 - 9. On April 14, 2015, the USPTO officially registered Berg's trademark.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

- 10. By failing to file Berg's trademark application in the two years after Berg hired Respondent, Respondent intentionally, recklessly, or repeatedly failed to perform legal services with competence in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A).
- 11. By leading Berg to believe that Berg's trademark application was being processed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office when Respondent knew she had not yet filed the application, Respondent committed an act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6106.

AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Multiple Acts of Misconduct (Std. 1.5(b)): Respondent engaged in multiple acts of misconduct by failing to file Amy Berg's trademark application in a timely fashion and later misrepresenting the status of Berg's trademark application.

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

No Prior Discipline: Respondent has no prior record of discipline in the 23 years of law practice that preceded her misconduct in this matter, though the weight in mitigation is limited because the misconduct at issue is serious. (See *In the Matter of Riordan* (Review Dept. 2007) 5 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 41, 49 [attorney's practice of law for more than 17 years considered to be mitigating circumstance even the misconduct at issue is serious].)

Prefiling Stipulation: Respondent has agreed to a pre-filing stipulation as to facts and conclusions of law, and thus has accepted responsibility for her actions while conserving State Bar Court time and resources. (See *Silva-Vidor v. State Bar* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 1071, 1079 [where mitigative credit was given for entering into a stipulation as to facts and culpability].)

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

The Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct "set forth a means for determining the appropriate disciplinary sanction in a particular case and to ensure consistency across cases dealing with similar misconduct and surrounding circumstances." (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, std. 1.1. All further references to Standards are to this source.) The Standards help fulfill the primary purposes of discipline, which include: protection of the public, the courts and the legal profession; maintenance of the highest professional standards; and preservation of public confidence in the legal profession. (See std. 1.1; *In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184, 205.)

Although not binding, the standards are entitled to "great weight" and should be followed "whenever possible" in determining level of discipline. (In re Silverton (2005) 36 Cal.4th 81, 92, quoting In re Brown (1995) 12 Cal.4th 205, 220 and In re Young (1989) 49 Cal.3d 257, 267, fn. 11.) Adherence to the standards in the great majority of cases serves the valuable purpose of eliminating disparity and assuring consistency, that is, the imposition of similar attorney discipline for instances of similar attorney misconduct. (In re Naney (1990) 51 Cal.3d 186, 190.) If a recommendation is at the high end or low end of a Standard, an explanation must be given as to how the recommendation was reached. (Std. 1.1.) "Any disciplinary recommendation that deviates from the Standards must include clear reasons for the departure." (Std. 1.1; Blair v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 762, 776, fn. 5.)

In determining whether to impose a sanction greater or less than that specified in a given standard, in addition to the factors set forth in the specific standard, consideration is to be given to the primary purposes of discipline; the balancing of all aggravating and mitigating circumstances; the type of misconduct at issue; whether the client, public, legal system or profession was harmed; and the member's willingness and ability to conform to ethical responsibilities in the future. (Stds. 1.7(b) and (c).)

In this matter, Respondent admits to committing two acts of professional misconduct. Standard 1.7(a) requires that where a Respondent "commits two or more acts of misconduct and the Standards specify different sanctions for each act, the most severe sanction must be imposed."

The most severe sanction applicable to Respondent's misconduct is Standard 2.7, which applies to Respondent's violation(s) of Business and Professions Code section 6106. Standard 2.7 states that disbarment or suspension is appropriate for an act of moral turpitude. The precise level of discipline is dependent upon the magnitude of the misconduct and the harm to the victim.

Respondent's misconduct here is her failure to perform by failing to file the trademark application within the two years after Berg hired Respondent. Respondent followed this by misrepresenting the status of Berg's trademark application. However, Respondent's misconduct is limited to a single client matter, and though Respondent did cause significant delays to Berg's trademark application process, those delays are the extent of the harm here. Meanwhile, the absence of a prior record of discipline and Respondent's agreement to enter a pre-filing stipulation are both mitigating factors. Therefore, the appropriate level of discipline will include a one-year suspension, stayed, with a one-year probation on condition of a 30-day actual suspension with standard conditions including Respondent's attendance at Ethics School. Respondent must take and pass the MPRE as well. This level of discipline is consistent with the purposes of attorney discipline, which include protection of the public, the courts, and the legal profession.

Case law supports the stipulated level of discipline. In *Bach v. State Bar* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 848, the attorney made false statements to a judge by denying both knowledge of, and existence of, a lawful judicial order. The Supreme Court suspended the attorney for one year, stayed, and placed the attorney on probation for three years with actual suspension for the first 60 days of his probation.

In In the Matter of Regan (Review Dept. 2005) 4 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 844, the Review Dept. held the attorney culpable for pursuing an appeal contrary to the wishes of his clients, misleading the appellate court about his clients' wishes, failing to communicate with his clients and failing to return his client's file upon request. Aggravation included multiple acts of misconduct, conduct in bad faith, significant harm to clients and a lack of insight into his misconduct, while mitigation included the attorney's 17 years of practice without prior misconduct. The court ultimately ordered 75 days of actual suspension.

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed Respondent that as of May 15, 2015, the prosecution costs in this matter are \$3,066. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected, or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

EXCLUSION FROM MCLE CREDIT

Pursuant to rule 3201, Respondent may <u>not</u> receive MCLE credit for completion of State Bar Ethics School. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 3201.)

SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES

recitations and each of the	terms and conditions of this Stipulation Re Facts	Conclusions of Law, and Disposition.
Mnc 4, 2015	Respondent's Signature	Juliet Monique Oberding
,		Print Name
Date	Respondent's Counsel Signature	Print Name
June 9, 2015	- / /W	William Todd

Print Name

Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature

Date

(to 4) - 1 (a 4)					
In the Matte	er or: MONIQUE OBERDING	Case N 14-O-0	lumber(s): 05170		
			3117		
			- Control of the Cont		
	ACTUAL	. SUSPENSION	ORDER		
Finding the s requested dis	tipulation to be fair to the parties and smissal of counts/charges, if any, is 0	that it adequately GRANTED without	protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the prejudice, and:		
	The stipulated facts and disposition Supreme Court.	are APPROVED a	and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the		
×	The stipulated facts and disposition DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED to	are APPROVED A the Supreme Cou	S MODIFIED as set forth below, and the urt.		
	All Hearing dates are vacated.				
1. On page	of the Stipulation, in the bottom	box on the right,	"Submitted to: Settlement Judge" is deleted		
and in its	place is inserted "Submitted to: A	Assigned Judge"; agraph under "Fa	ets and Conclusions of Low? "he is		
2. On page 7 of the stipulation, in the first paragraph under "Facts and Conclusions of Law", "he is culpable" is deleted, and in its place is inserted "she is culpable".					
			f		
The parties are vithin 15 davs	e bound by the stipulation as approve after service of this order, is granted	ed unless: 1) a mot : or 2) this court m	ion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed odifies or further modifies the approved		
tipulation. (Se	ee rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Proced	dure.) The effective	e date of this disposition is the effective date		
Court.)	ie Court Order Herem, Hormally 30	uays after file dai	te. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of		
Tim	ne 18 7015	W.16	In Ill		

Judge of the State Bar Court

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of Los Angeles, on June 18, 2015, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

JULIET M. OBERDING OBERDING LAW 120 LINCOLN DR SAUSALITO, CA 94965

by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

William S. Todd, Enforcement, Los Angeles

Terrie Goldade, Probation, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on June 18, 2015.

Paul Barona

Case Administrator

State Bar Court

(Do not write above this line.)		
In the Matter of: JULIET MONIQUE OBERDING		Case Number(s): 17-O-01375
ACTUAL SUSPENSION ORDER		
	ulation to be fair to the parties and that it addissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED	equately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the without prejudice, and:
Z T	The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the Supreme Court.	
	The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED to the Supreme Court.	
A	Il Hearing dates are vacated.	
within 15 days a stipulation. (See	fter service of this order, is granted; or 2) the rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Procedure.) The	s: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed is court modifies or further modifies the approved e effective date of this disposition is the effective date ter file date. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of
Court.)	14 20,7	4 V
Date Date	LUCY	ARMENDARIZ
Judge of the State Bar Court		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of San Francisco, on August 14, 2017, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at San Francisco, California, addressed as follows:

JULIET M. OBERDING 120 LINCOLN DR SAUSALITO, CA 94965

by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Carla L. Cheung, Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on August 14, 2017.

Vincent Au

Case Administrator

State Bar Court