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AUG 07 2017 #

STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE LOS ANGELES

### **STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

#### **REVIEW DEPARTMENT**

### **IN BANK**

In the Matter of	
STEVEN IRA WADLER,	
A Member of the State Bar, No. 118960.	

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Case No. 17-Q-02555 RECOMMENDATION ON RESIGNATION

On May 3, 2017, Steve Ira Wadler filed a resignation with charges pending. On June 29, 2017, the Office of Chief Trial Counsel of the State Bar (OCTC) filed its report on the resignation and the parties' Stipulation as to Facts and Conclusions of Law. OCTC recommends that the resignation be accepted. On July 17, 2017, Wadler filed a response requesting that his resignation be accepted.

Based on OCTC's recommendation and in light of the grounds set forth in California Rules of Court, rule 9.21(d),<sup>\*</sup> as detailed below, we recommend that the Supreme Court accept the resignation.

### I. BACKGROUND

Wadler was admitted to practice law in California on July 23, 1985. He has no prior record of discipline.

Currently, disciplinary charges are pending against Wadler. (State Bar Court Case No. 15-O-11969), and the parties have entered into a stipulation as to facts and conclusions of law as

<sup>\*</sup> All further references to rules are to this source unless otherwise noted.



follows. By reporting under penalty of perjury to the State Bar that he was in compliance with his Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirements when he was grossly negligent in not knowing that he was not in compliance with his MCLE requirements, Wadler made a grossly negligent misrepresentation. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6106.) Also, Wadler failed to provide a response to the State Bar's investigative letter of July 7, 2015, which requested Wadler's response to the allegations of misconduct being investigated, and he failed to otherwise cooperate in the State Bar investigation. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6068, subd.(i).)

# II. CONSIDERATION OF THE GROUNDS SET FORTH IN RULE 9.21(d)

We have considered Wadler's resignation under the grounds set forth in rule 9.21(d). We summarize below the relevant information for each ground:

# 1. Whether the preservation of testimony is complete.

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OCTC reports that preservation of testimony is not necessary in the pending matter.

# 2. Whether after transfer to inactive status, Wadler has practiced law or has advertised or held himself out as entitled to practice law.

OCTC reports that there is no evidence that Wadler has practiced law or held himself out as entitled to practice law in California since his transfer to inactive status on October 21, 2014.

# 3. Whether Wadler performed the acts specified in rule 9.20(a)-(b).

OCTC reports that, consistent with rule 9.20(a)-(b), Wadler has attested he has no clients,

no client papers or other property to return, no unearned fees, and no pending client matters.

Accordingly, it appears that there were no acts that Wadler was required to perform.

4. Whether Wadler provided proof of compliance with rule 9.20(c).

Wadler filed a 9.20 compliance affidavit on June 7, 2017.

### 5. Whether the Supreme Court has filed a disbarment order.

The Supreme Court has not filed a disbarment order.

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6. Whether the State Bar Court has filed a decision recommending disbarment.

The State Bar Court has not filed a decision recommending Wadler's disbarment.

# 7. Whether Wadler has previously resigned or has been disbarred and reinstated to the practice of law.

Wadler has not previously resigned or been disbarred.

8. Whether Wadler entered into a stipulation with OCTC as to facts and conclusions of law regarding pending disciplinary matters.

Wadler has entered into a stipulation with OCTC as to facts and conclusions of law regarding pending disciplinary matters.

9. Whether accepting Wadler's resignation will reasonably be inconsistent with the need to protect the public, the courts, or the legal profession.

Acceptance of Wadler's resignation would be consistent with the need to protect the public, the courts, and the legal profession. Wadler has acknowledged his misconduct and complied with rule 9.20. Further, Wadler has no prior record of discipline, and no client security fund claims are pending against him. OCTC also reports that Wadler has resided outside the State of California since 2010 and has served in the Peace Corps since June 11, 2015; he is 58 years old and does not intend to practice law in the future. Under these circumstances, we do not believe that public confidence in the discipline system will be undermined by accepting the resignation, and we believe that acceptance would be consistent with the need to protect the public, the courts, and the legal profession.

#### **III. RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend that the Supreme Court accept the resignation of Steven Ira Wadler, State Bar number 118960. We further recommend that costs be awarded to the State Bar in

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accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6068.10, and that such costs be enforceable both as provided in section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.

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# PURCELL

Presiding Judge

### **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 August 7, 2017, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

ORDER FILED August 7, 2017

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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:

DAVID C. CARR LAW OFFICE OF DAVID C. CARR 525 B ST STE 1500 SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 - 4417

by certified mail, No. , with return receipt requested, through the United States Postal Service at , California, addressed as follows:

by overnight mail at , California, addressed as follows:

- by fax transmission, at fax number . No error was reported by the fax machine that I used.
- by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Angie Esquivel, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on August 7, 2017.

Nikiah Hawkins Case Administrator State Bar Court