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**State Bar Court of California  
Hearing Department  
Los Angeles  
REPROVAL**

<p>Counsel for the State Bar</p> <p><b>Joshua D. Mendelsohn</b> Senior Trial Counsel 845 S. Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 765-1358</p> <p>Bar # 228888</p>	<p>Case Number(s): <b>18-C-14945 YDR</b></p>	<p>For Court use only</p> <p align="center"><b>PUBLIC MATTER</b></p> <p align="center"><b>FILED</b> <i>MK</i> <b>MAY 24 2019</b></p> <p align="center">STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE LOS ANGELES</p>
<p>In Pro Per Respondent</p> <p><b>Adam Christian Thiel</b> 3020 Old Ranch Pkwy Ste 300 Seal Beach, CA 90740-2751 (562) 341-5739</p> <p>Bar # 173343</p>	<p>Submitted to: <b>Settlement Judge</b></p> <p>STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING</p> <p><b>PUBLIC REPROVAL</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS STIPULATION REJECTED</p>	
<p>In the Matter of: <b>ADAM CHRISTIAN THIEL</b></p> <p>Bar # 173343</p> <p>A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)</p>		

**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 12, 1994**.
- (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 **13** 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."



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- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law."
- (6) 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) Payment of Disciplinary Costs—Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & 6140.7. (Check one option only):
- It is ordered that costs be 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.
  - Case ineligible for costs (private reproof).
  - It is ordered that costs be 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 Respondent's membership fees for each of the following years: two billing cycles from the effective date of the State Bar Court order imposing discipline.
- If Respondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified in writing by the State Bar or the State Bar Court, the remaining balance will be due and payable immediately.
- Costs are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs."
  - Costs are entirely waived.
- (9) The parties understand that:
- (a)  A private reproof imposed on a Respondent as a result of a stipulation approved by the Court prior to initiation of a State Bar Court proceeding is part of the Respondent's official State Bar membership records, but is not disclosed in response to public inquiries and is not reported on the State Bar's web page. The record of the proceeding in which such a private reproof was imposed is not available to the public except as part of the record of any subsequent proceeding in which it is introduced as evidence of a prior record of discipline under the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar.
  - (b)  A private reproof imposed on a Respondent after initiation of a State Bar Court proceeding is part of the Respondent's official State Bar membership records, is disclosed in response to public inquiries and is reported as a record of public discipline on the State Bar's web page.
  - (c)  A public reproof imposed on a Respondent is publicly available as part of the Respondent's official State Bar membership records, is disclosed in response to public inquiries and is reported as a record of public discipline on the State Bar's web page.

**B. Aggravating Circumstances [Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct, standards 1.2(h) & 1.5]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are required.**

- (1)  **Prior record of discipline:**
- (a)  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)  If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below.
- (2)  **Intentional/Bad Faith/Dishonesty:** Respondent's misconduct was dishonest, intentional, or surrounded by, or followed by bad faith.
  - (3)  **Misrepresentation:** Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by misrepresentation.
  - (4)  **Concealment:** Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by concealment.
  - (5)  **Overreaching:** Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by overreaching.
  - (6)  **Uncharged Violations:** Respondent's conduct involves uncharged violations of the Business and Professions Code or the Rules of Professional Conduct.
  - (7)  **Trust Violation:** Trust funds or property were involved and Respondent refused or was unable to account to the client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or property.
  - (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 consequences of Respondent's misconduct.
  - (10)  **Candor/Lack of Cooperation:** Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of Respondent's misconduct, or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigations or proceedings.
  - (11)  **Multiple Acts:** Respondent's current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing.
  - (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.

**Additional aggravating circumstances:**

**C. Mitigating Circumstances [Standards 1.2(i) & 1.6]. Facts supporting mitigating circumstances 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 Respondent's misconduct or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation 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 Respondent's 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 Respondent.
- (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 Respondent, such as illegal drug or substance abuse, and the difficulties or disabilities no longer pose a risk that Respondent will commit misconduct.
- (9)  **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 Respondent's control and which were directly responsible for the misconduct.
- (10)  **Family Problems:** At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered extreme difficulties in Respondent's personal life which were other than emotional or physical in nature.
- (11)  **Good Character:** Respondent's extraordinarily good character is attested to by a wide range of references in the legal and general communities who are aware of the full extent of Respondent's misconduct.
- (12)  **Rehabilitation:** Considerable time has passed since the acts of professional misconduct occurred followed by subsequent rehabilitation.
- (13)  **No mitigating circumstances** are involved.

**Additional mitigating circumstances:**

**Pre-Trial Stipulation. See page 9.**  
**Good Character, See page 10.**  
**No Prior Discipline, See page 10.**

**D. Discipline:**

**Discipline – Reproval**

Respondent is **Publicly** reprovaled. Pursuant to the provisions of rule 5.127(A) of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar, this reprovale will be effective when this stipulation becomes final. Furthermore, pursuant to rule 9.19(a) of the California Rules of Court and rule 5.128 of the Rules of Procedure, the court finds that the protection of the public and the interests of Respondent will be served by the following conditions being attached to this reprovale. Failure to comply with any condition attached to this reprovale may constitute cause for

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a separate disciplinary proceeding for willful breach of rule 1-110 of the State Bar Rules of Professional Conduct. Respondent is ordered to comply with the following conditions attached to this reproof for **one year** (Reproof Conditions Period) following the effective date of the reproof.

- (1)  **Review Rules of Professional Conduct:** Within 30 days after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must (1) read the California Rules of Professional Conduct (Rules of Professional Conduct) and Business and Professions Code sections 6067, 6068, and 6103 through 6126, and (2) provide a declaration, under penalty of perjury, attesting to Respondent's compliance with this requirement, to the State Bar's Office of Probation in Los Angeles (Office of Probation) with Respondent's first quarterly report.
- (2)  **Comply with State Bar Act, Rules of Professional Conduct, and Reproof Conditions:** Respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and all conditions of Respondent's reproof.
- (3)  **Maintain Valid Official Membership Address and Other Required Contact Information:** Within 30 days after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must make certain that the State Bar Attorney Regulation and Consumer Resources Office (ARCR) has Respondent's current office address, email address, and telephone number. If Respondent does not maintain an office, Respondent must provide the mailing address, email address, and telephone number to be used for State Bar purposes. Respondent must report, in writing, any change in the above information to ARCR within ten (10) days after such change, in the manner required by that office.
- (4)  **Meet and Cooperate with Office of Probation:** Within 30 days after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must schedule a meeting with Respondent's assigned probation case specialist to discuss the terms and conditions of Respondent's discipline and, within 45 days after the effective date of the court's order, must participate in such meeting. Unless otherwise instructed by the Office of Probation, Respondent may meet with the probation case specialist in person or by telephone. During the Reproof Conditions Period, Respondent must promptly meet with representatives of the Office of Probation as requested by it and, subject to the assertion of applicable privileges, must fully, promptly, and truthfully answer any inquiries by it and provide to it any other information requested by it.
- (5)  **State Bar Court Retains Jurisdiction/Appear Before and Cooperate with State Bar Court:** During Respondent's Reproof Conditions Period, the State Bar Court retains jurisdiction over Respondent to address issues concerning compliance with reproof conditions. During this period, Respondent must appear before the State Bar Court as required by the court or by the Office of Probation after written notice mailed to Respondent's official membership address, as provided above. Subject to the assertion of applicable privileges, Respondent must fully, promptly, and truthfully answer any inquiries by the court and must provide any other information the court requests.
- (6)  **Quarterly and Final Reports:**
  - a. **Deadlines for Reports.** Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation no later than each January 10 (covering October 1 through December 31 of the prior year), April 10 (covering January 1 through March 31), July 10 (covering April 1 through June 30), and October 10 (covering July 1 through September 30) within the Reproof Conditions Period. If the first report would cover less than 30 days, that report must be submitted on the next quarter date and cover the extended deadline. In addition to all quarterly reports, Respondent must submit a final report no earlier than ten (10) days before the last day of the Reproof Conditions Period and no later than the last day of the Reproof Conditions Period.

- b. Contents of Reports.** Respondent must answer, under penalty of perjury, all inquiries contained in the quarterly report form provided by the Office of Probation, including stating whether Respondent has complied with the State Bar Act and the Rules of Professional Conduct during the applicable quarter or period. All reports must be: (1) submitted on the form provided by the Office of Probation; (2) signed and dated after the completion of the period for which the report is being submitted (except for the final report); (3) filled out completely and signed under penalty of perjury; and (4) submitted to the Office of Probation on or before each report's due date.
- c. Submission of Reports.** All reports must be submitted by: (1) fax or email to the Office of Probation; (2) personal delivery to the Office of Probation; (3) certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Office of Probation (postmarked on or before the due date); or (4) other tracked-service provider, such as Federal Express or United Parcel Service, etc. (physically delivered to such provider on or before the due date).
- d. Proof of Compliance.** Respondent is directed to maintain proof of Respondent's compliance with the above requirements for each such report for a minimum of one year after the Reapproval Conditions Period has ended. Respondent is required to present such proof upon request by the State Bar, the Office of Probation, or the State Bar Court.
- (7)  **State Bar Ethics School:** Within one year after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must submit to the Office of Probation satisfactory evidence of completion of the State Bar Ethics School and passage of the test given at the end of that session. This requirement is separate from any Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirement, and Respondent will not receive MCLE credit for attending this session.
- (8)  **State Bar Ethics School Not Recommended:** It is not recommended that Respondent be ordered to attend the State Bar Ethics School because
- (9)  **State Bar Client Trust Accounting School:** Within one year after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must submit to the Office of Probation satisfactory evidence of completion of the State Bar Client Trust Accounting School and passage of the test given at the end of that session. This requirement is separate from any Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirement, and Respondent will not receive MCLE credit for attending this session.
- (10)  **Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Courses – California Legal Ethics [Alternative to State Bar Ethics School for Out-of-State Residents]:** Because Respondent resides outside of California, within \_\_\_\_\_ after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must either submit to the Office of Probation satisfactory evidence of completion of the State Bar Ethics School and passage of the test given at the end of that session or, in the alternative, complete \_\_\_\_\_ hours of California Minimum Continuing Legal Education-approved participatory activity in California legal ethics and provide proof of such completion to the Office of Probation. This requirement is separate from any MCLE requirement, and Respondent will not receive MCLE credit for this activity.
- (11)  **Criminal Probation:** Respondent must comply with all probation conditions imposed in the underlying criminal matter and must report such compliance under penalty of perjury in all quarterly and final reports submitted to the Office of Probation covering any portion of the period of the criminal probation. In each quarterly and final report, if Respondent has an assigned criminal probation officer, Respondent must provide the name and current contact information for that criminal probation officer. If the criminal probation was successfully completed during the period covered by a quarterly or final report, that fact must be reported by Respondent in such report and satisfactory evidence of such fact must be provided with it. If, at any time before or during the Reapproval Conditions Period, Respondent's criminal probation is revoked, Respondent is sanctioned by the criminal court, or Respondent's status is otherwise changed due to any alleged violation of the criminal probation conditions by Respondent, Respondent must submit the criminal court records regarding any such action with Respondent's next quarterly or final report.

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- (12)  **Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE):** Within \_\_\_\_\_ after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter, Respondent must complete \_\_\_\_\_ hour(s) of California Minimum Continuing Legal Education-approved participatory activity in SELECT ONE \_\_\_\_\_ and must provide proof of such completion to the Office of Probation. This requirement is separate from any MCLE requirement, and Respondent will not receive MCLE credit for this activity.
- (13)  **Other:** Respondent must also comply with the following additional reprobation conditions: \_\_\_\_\_
- (14)  **Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination Within One Year:** It is further ordered that Respondent be ordered to take and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners within one year after the effective date of the order imposing discipline in this matter and to provide satisfactory proof of such passage to the State Bar's Office of Probation within the same period. Failure to do so may result in suspension. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)
- (15)  **The following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:**
- Financial Conditions
  - Medical Conditions
  - Substance Abuse Conditions





stage, and stated that the crowd created a safety issue that he wanted Corporal Reyes to address. Corporal Reyes directed respondent to UCSB PD Sergeant Matthew Bowman who was nearby.

8. Respondent approached Sergeant Bowman and told him that respondent had seats at the front of the seating area, but that the severe crowding was unsafe and he wanted to know what Sergeant Bowman was going to do about it. Sergeant Bowman told respondent that he was there to provide security, not to address crowding so he was not going to do anything. Respondent then asked Sergeant Bowman: "What if something bad happens down there?" Sergeant Bowman said he hoped nothing bad would happen and directed respondent to an event staff member behind him.

9. Respondent then approached event staff member, Mr. G, who was working at the commencement entry point for students and faculty.

10. Respondent and Mr. G. spoke calmly for approximately two to three minutes as respondent expressed his concern with the crowds. The discussion then became heated, with both Mr. G and respondent using raised voices and the two standing nose to nose separated only by a chain Mr. G was manning. Mr. G laughed at respondent, who then stated: "Are you laughing at me?" Mr. G responded that he was laughing at respondent.

11. Corporal Reyes, Sergeant Lupo and Officer Samaniego began to walk over to respondent's location. Mr. G pushed respondent away from Mr. G. Respondent then struck Mr. G with a closed fist to his face, and Mr. G fell to the ground. After being hit by respondent, the left side of Mr. G's face was visibly red, while his face and mouth were sore. Mr. G also suffered an abrasion to his right elbow from the fall.

12. Officer Samaniego and Sergeant Lupo tackled respondent, causing Sergeant Lupo to suffer a small flesh laceration near his thumbnail, while Officer Samaniego suffered bruising under the nail bed of her left ring finger, swelling of the entire finger, a small abrasion to her knee and slight bruising to her lower leg. Respondent was taken into custody.

13. Mr. G signed a citizen's arrest form indicating that he wanted to prosecute respondent. Respondent was then transferred to county jail and booked for violation of Penal Code section 242 battery, a misdemeanor, and released on his own recognizance.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

14. The facts and circumstances surrounding the above-described violation(s) did not involve moral turpitude but did involve other misconduct warranting discipline.

#### MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

**Pretrial Stipulation:** By entering into this stipulation, respondent has acknowledged his 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].)

**No Prior Record of Discipline:** Respondent has been admitted since December 12, 1994, and has no prior record of discipline. Respondent is entitled to highly significant mitigation for 23 years of discipline-free practice. (*In the Matter of Riordan* (2007) 5 Cal State Bar Ct. Rptr. 41 [attorney's many years in practice with no prior discipline considered mitigating even when misconduct at issue was serious; *Hawes v. State Bar* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 587, 596 [more than ten years of discipline-free practice entitled to significant mitigation]; *Friedman v. State Bar* (1990) 50 Cal.3d 235, 245 [20 years is "highly significant" mitigation].)

**Good Character:** Respondent produced six declarations of good character. The declarations were provided by two attorneys, a psychologist, a high school teacher, a law enforcement officer and one of respondent's clients. The high school teacher, both attorneys, respondent's client and the law enforcement officer stated that they are aware of the full extent of the misconduct alleged. All attested to respondent's good character. (*In the Matter of Duxbury* (Review Dept. 1999) 4 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 61, 67 [four character letters are worthy of moderate mitigation credit].)

#### **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 Silvertown* (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.)

"Criminal conduct not committed in the practice of law or against a client reveals moral turpitude if it shows a deficiency in any character trait necessary for the practice of law (such as trustworthiness, honesty, fairness, candor, and fidelity to fiduciary duties) or if it involves such a serious breach of a duty owed to another or to society, or such a flagrant disrespect for the law or for societal norms, that knowledge of the attorney's conduct would be likely to undermine public confidence in and respect for the legal profession." (*In re Lesansky* (2001) 25 Cal. 4th 11, 16.) In the present matter, the facts and circumstances surrounding respondent's conviction do not involve moral turpitude, but do involve other conduct warranting discipline. (*id.*)

An attorney may be disciplined for crimes related to violent or aggressive behavior that does not involve moral turpitude. (*In re Hickey* (1990) 50 Cal.3d 571, 579 [30-day actual suspension for carrying a concealed weapon conviction and alcoholism fueled repeated acts of violence towards spouse and others].) Moreover, assaultive crimes do not per se constitute crimes of moral turpitude for attorney discipline purposes. Instead, if moral turpitude exists for such a crime, it must be based on the particular

circumstances surrounding the conviction. Assaultive criminal convictions have been determined to involve moral turpitude where the surrounding circumstances indicate a flagrant disregard for human life. (*In the Matter of Respondent O* (Review Dept. 1993) 2 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 581, 590-591; *In the Matter of Frascinella* (Review Department 1991) 1 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 543, 549-550; *In re Rothrock* (1940) 16 Cal.2d 449, 459.)

Standard 2.16(b) provides that “suspension or reproof is the presumed sanction for final conviction of a misdemeanor not involving moral turpitude but involving other misconduct warranting discipline.”

Here, respondent was convicted of a single count of misdemeanor assault. Respondent acted in the heat of the moment, did not seriously injure the victim, and cooperated with police and the district attorney in reaching a plea agreement. There are no circumstances in aggravation. Respondent is entitled to mitigation for acknowledging his misconduct and entering into a pretrial stipulation, thereby obviating the need for trial and saving State Bar time and resources. Also, respondent is entitled to highly significant mitigation for 23 years of discipline free practice, and moderate mitigative credit for good character. Considering the nature of the misconduct and the mitigating and aggravating circumstances, a public reproof is appropriate to protect the public, the courts, and the legal profession, maintain the highest professional standards, and preserve public confidence in the legal profession.

This level of discipline is also consistent with case law.

For instance, in *In re Hickey, supra*, 50 Cal.3d 571, the attorney struck his wife in the side of the head with a gun, threatened his wife after she had taken refuge at a neighbor’s residence, and was then detained by police when carrying a concealed weapon. The attorney pleaded *nolo contendere* to a single count of carrying a concealed weapon. The Supreme Court concluded that the circumstances surrounding the attorney’s conviction demonstrated a pattern of violent conduct arising from his abuse of alcohol and resulting in injury not only to his wife but to a bystander. Additionally, the attorney was found to have failed to properly to withdraw from legal representation in a single client matter. In mitigation, the attorney had no prior record of discipline in 9 years of practice, and presented evidence of his recovery from alcoholism. The court held that the attorney’s repeated misconduct arose from abuse of alcohol, so a period of actual suspension was necessary to ensure that his recovery was lasting and he was no longer a danger to his clients. The court imposed discipline consisting of a three-year stayed suspension, three-year probation, and 30-day actual suspension. In contrast, here respondent’s conduct was an isolated incident, not fueled by alcohol abuse. Further, respondent did not engage in misconduct in a client matter as the attorney in *Hickey* had, and respondent is entitled to significantly more mitigation than the attorney in *Hickey*. Accordingly, less severe discipline is appropriate in the present matter.

In light of the foregoing, a level of discipline consisting of a public reproof with a one-year reproof period and conditions will best serve the goals of protection of the public, the courts, and the legal profession.

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**COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.**

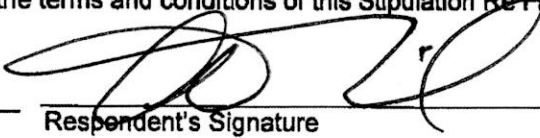
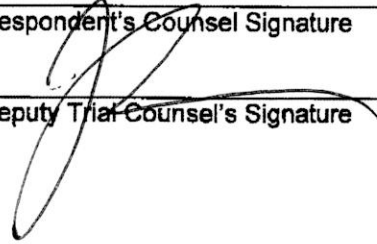
Respondent acknowledges that the Office of Chief Trial Counsel has informed respondent that as of April 8, 2019, the discipline costs in this matter are \$2,699. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

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In the Matter of: <b>ADAM CHRISTIAN THIEL</b>	Case Number(s): <b>18-C-14945</b>
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**SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES**

By their signatures below, the parties and their counsel, as applicable, signify their agreement with each of the recitations and each of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation Re Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition.

April <sup>24</sup> , 2019 Date	 Respondent's Signature	Adam Thiel Print Name
_____ Date	_____ Respondent's Counsel Signature	_____ Print Name
April 24, 2019 Date	 Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	Joshua Mendelsohn Print Name

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In the Matter of: ADAM CHRISTIAN THIEL	Case Number(s): 18-C-14945
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### REPROVAL ORDER

Finding that the stipulation protects the public and that the interests of Respondent will be served by any conditions attached to the reproof, IT IS ORDERED that the requested dismissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED without prejudice, and:

- The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AND THE REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- The stipulated facts and disposition are APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the REPROVAL IMPOSED.
- All court dates in the Hearing Department are vacated.

On page 5 of the Stipulation, the first line at the top of the page, "rule 1-110" is deleted, and in its place is inserted "rule 8.1.1".

The parties are bound by the stipulation as approved unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed within 15 days after service of this order, is granted; or 2) this court modifies or further modifies the approved stipulation. (See Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 5.58(E) & (F).) **Otherwise the stipulation shall be effective 15 days after service of this order.**

**Failure to comply with any conditions attached to this reproof may constitute cause for a separate proceeding for willful breach of rule 8.1.1, Rules of Professional Conduct.**

May 24, 2019  
Date

*Rebecca Meyer Rosenberg*  
REBECCA MEYER ROSENBERG, JUDGE PRO TEM  
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 Court Specialist 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 May 28, 2019, 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:

ADAM CHRISTIAN THIEL  
LAW OFFICE OF ADAM C. THIEL  
3020 OLD RANCH PKWY STE 300  
SEAL BEACH, CA 90740-2751

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

JOSHUA D. MENDELSON, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on May 28, 2019.



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Marc Krause  
Court Specialist  
State Bar Court