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FILED

APR 09 2019

**STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES**

4 **In Pro Per**

5
6 **BEFORE THE STATE BAR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
7 **HEARING DEPARTMENT-LOS ANGELES**

9
10 In the Matter of:

11 **LEE ARDELL WOOD**

12
13 State Bar Number: 58676

) **Case No. SBC-19-O-30132**

) (OCTC Case Number: 18-O-13196)

) **ASSIGNED TO:**

) **Honorable Cynthia Valenzuela**

) **State Bar Court Judge Specialist:**

) **Paul Barona**

) **RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF
DISCIPLINARY CHARGES**

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18 **TO THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA**
19 **AND TO ITS COUNSEL OF RECORD:**

20 Respondent Lee Ardell Wood responds to the Notice of Disciplinary Charges as follows:

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22 **Answer to Specific Allegations Contained in the Notice of Disciplinary Charges:**

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24 **JURISDICTION**

25 1. Respondent admits that he was admitted to the practice of law in the State of California on
26 December 20, 1973 and was a member of the California State Bar at all times pertinent to these
27 charges, and is currently an active member of the State Bar of California.
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COUNT ONE

1. Respondent objects to the allegation in Paragraph 2 of Count One on the basis that they are conclusory, compound and intertwined with legal conclusion. Without waving this objection, Respondent denies that he committed acts in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-100 (A).

COUNT TWO

2. Respondent objects to the allegation in Paragraph 3 of Count Two on the basis that they are conclusory, compound and intertwined with legal conclusion. Without waving this objection, Respondent denies that he committed acts in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-100 (A).

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

As separate and distinct affirmative defenses to the State Bar of California's Notice of Disciplinary Charges, Respondent alleges as follows:

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure to State Sufficient Facts)

As a FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, and each of its purported counts, fails to state facts sufficient to state a basis for discipline.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Duplicative Charges)

As a SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, and each of its purported counts, contains inappropriate, unnecessary, and immaterial, duplicative charges, sufficient to state a basis for discipline. *Bates v State Bar* (1990) 51 Cal. 3rd 1056, 1060; *In the Matter of Lilley* (Rev. Dept. 1991) 1 Cal. SB Ct. RPtr. 476, 585.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Charges Do Not Constitute Willful Misconduct)

As a THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, the facts on which some or all, of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, and each of its purported counts, are based, constitute mistake, inadvertence, neglect or error and do not rise to the level of willful misconduct, for the State Bar, to state a basis for discipline.

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FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack of Harm)

As a FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, no persons were harmed by the acts alleged in each and every count of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, and each of its purported counts.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Good Faith)

As a FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, the actions, if any, of the Respondent, with respect to the allegations contained in each and every count of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, were conducted in Good Faith.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

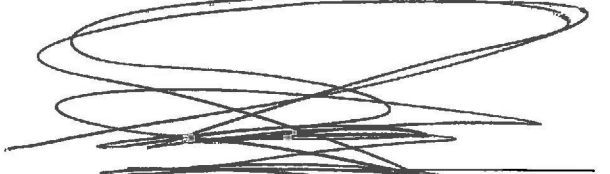
(Authorized by applicable law)

As a SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, the actions, if any, of the Respondent, with respect to the allegations contained in each and every count of the Notice of Disciplinary Charges, was and is permitted and authorized by applicable law.

WHEREFORE, Respondent prays that the Court find that Respondent did not commit acts constituting professional misconduct, and that the Notice of Disciplinary Charges be dismissed in its entirety.

Date: April 8, 2019

Respectfully submitted,



Lee A. Wood, Esq.
In Pro Per

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PROOF OF SERVICE

C.C.P Section 1013 (a) (3)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 695 Town Center Drive, Suite 700, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. On April 8, 2019, I served the within document(s) described as:

1. Response by Lee Ardell Wood to the State Bar of California’s Notice of Disciplinary Charges, (Case Number SBC-19-O-30132).

BY MAIL: I placed a true copy of the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope addressed as set forth below for collection and mailing. I am “readily familiar” with this firm’s practice of collection and processing of correspondence for mailing. It is deposited with the U.S. Postal service on the same day in the ordinary course of business with postage thereon fully prepaid. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service by mail is presumed invalid if the postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after the date of deposit for mailing contained in this affidavit.

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL [EMAIL]: I served a true copy of the document(s) listed above by electronic mail (email) to the addressee(s), with an email address, listed below:

SERVICE LIST

Cindy Chan, Esq.
Deputy Trial Counsel
Office of Chief Trial Counsel
The State Bar of California
845 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017-2515

Paul Barona
Court Specialist
California State Bar Court
845 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017-2515

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of California that the above is true and correct. I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Executed on April 8, 2019 at Costa Mesa, CA.



Paul C. Ward