

STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

HEARING DEPARTMENT – SAN FRANCISCO

In the Matter of

JAMES EARL DEFRANTZ

Petitioner for Relief from Costs.

Case No.: 97-O-12655 ORDER RE COSTS

On October 16, 2009, petitioner **James Earl Defrantz** filed a brief entitled Motion for Hardship Relief from Order of Payment of Client Security Funds and Supporting Declaration ("Motion for Relief"). In his Motion for Relief, petitioner sought relief from or an extension of time to comply with an order of payment of Client Security Fund reimbursements relating to Supreme Court Case Nos. S089471 and S094948 (State Bar Court Case Nos. 97-O-12655; 01-Q-00032; and 05-F-00376). (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 282, *et seq.*) Petitioner's motion was based on financial hardship.

On October 20, 2009, Deputy Trial Counsel Donald R. Steedman of the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel of the State Bar of California (State Bar) filed a response. The State Bar opposes petitioner's request for relief. The State Bar points out that petitioner can meet his financial obligations by re-allocating monies he currently spends on a vacation timeshare, charitable giving, and private school. The State Bar also asserts that the court lacks jurisdiction



over the monies petitioner currently owes the Client Security Fund because a judgment has yet to be entered.

Although petitioner's Motion for Relief was labeled as a request for relief from payment of Client Security Fund reimbursements, it appears, from the text of petitioner's motion, that it is intended to incorporate a motion for relief from or an extension of time to comply with an order to pay disciplinary costs. Accordingly, the court issues the following orders:

1. Petitioner's motion for relief from payment of disciplinary costs is **DENIED**, no good cause having been shown;

Petitioner's motion for extension of time to comply with the order to pay disciplinary costs is **GRANTED**. The court orders that petitioner's time to pay the disciplinary costs of \$3,419.30 be extended by one year from the date of filing of the present order; and

3. Petitioner's motion for relief from or an extension of time to comply with an order of payment of Client Security Fund reimbursements is **DENIED**, for lack of jurisdiction. (See Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 285(a).)

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: November 5, 2009

Judge of the State Bar Court

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rule 62(b), Rules Proc.; 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 November 5, 2009, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

ORDER RE COSTS

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:

JAMES E. DEFRANTZ 2759 EAST AVE HAYWARD, CA 94541

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 personal service by leaving the documents in a sealed envelope or package clearly labeled to identify the attorney being served with a receptionist or a person having charge of the attorney's office, addressed as follows:
- by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Donald R. Steedman, Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on November 5, 2009.

George Hue

Case Administrator State Bar Court