

1 STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
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**FILED**

**AUG 26 2015**

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

9  
10 STATE BAR COURT

11 HEARING DEPARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

12  
13 In the Matter of: ) Case No. 14-O-05187, 15-H-11371  
14 LORNA CHRISTINE WASHINGTON, )  
No. 199393, ) NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES  
15 )  
16 A Member of the State Bar )

17 **NOTICE - FAILURE TO RESPOND!**

18 **IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER TO THIS NOTICE  
19 WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER SERVICE, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT  
20 THE STATE BAR COURT TRIAL:**

- 21 (1) **YOUR DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED;**  
22 (2) **YOUR STATUS WILL BE CHANGED TO INACTIVE AND YOU  
WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW;**  
23 (3) **YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE FURTHER IN  
THESE PROCEEDINGS UNLESS YOU MAKE A TIMELY MOTION  
AND THE DEFAULT IS SET ASIDE, AND;**  
24 (4) **YOU SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE.  
SPECIFICALLY, IF YOU FAIL TO TIMELY MOVE TO SET ASIDE  
OR VACATE YOUR DEFAULT, THIS COURT WILL ENTER AN  
ORDER RECOMMENDING YOUR DISBARMENT WITHOUT  
25 FURTHER HEARING OR PROCEEDING. SEE RULE 5.80 ET SEQ.,  
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA.**

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1 The State Bar of California alleges:

2 JURISDICTION

3 1. Lorna Christine Washington (respondent) was admitted to the practice of law in the  
4 State of California on December 14, 1998, was a member at all times pertinent to these charges,  
5 and is currently a member of the State Bar of California.

6 COUNT ONE

7 Case No. 14-O-05187  
8 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A)  
[Failure to Perform with Competence]

9 2. In or about March 2004, Russelle Uyehara employed respondent to perform legal  
10 services, namely complete the probate of the estate of Dorothy Uyehara, Los Angeles Superior  
11 Court, case number BP090218, *In re Dorothy Uyehara*, which respondent intentionally,  
12 recklessly, or repeatedly failed to perform with competence, in willful violation of Rules of  
13 Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A), by the following:

14 A) failing to complete the probate after working on it for over eleven (11) years;

15 B) failing to file an accounting of the estate assets until November 10, 2011, and failing,  
16 to date, to satisfactorily explain or correct problems with the accounting that were pointed out by  
17 the Superior Court; and

18 C) failing to appear in court, after receiving notice, on May 8, 2015, June 5, 2015, and  
19 July 22, 2015.

20 COUNT TWO

21 Case No. 14-O-05187  
22 Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 4-100(A)  
[Failure to Maintain Client Funds in Trust Account]

23 3. In or about January 2005, respondent received on behalf of respondent's client,  
24 Russelle Uyehara, proceeds from the sale of Dorothy Uyehara's (deceased) residence in the  
25 amount of \$315,932.56. In or about January 2005, Respondent deposited the \$315,932.56 into  
26 Respondent's client trust account at Wells Fargo Bank, account number \*\*\*\*\*-4258 on behalf  
27 of the client. As of on or about November 10, 2011, respondent was required to maintain  
28 \$112,971.65 in her client trust account. Respondent failed to maintain a balance of \$112,971.65

1 on behalf of the client in Respondent's client trust account, in willful violation of Rules of  
2 Professional Conduct, rule 4-100(A).

3 COUNT THREE

4 Case No. 14-O-05187  
5 Business and Professions Code, section 6106  
6 [Moral Turpitude - Misappropriation]

7 4. In or about January 2005, respondent received on behalf of respondent's client,  
8 Russelle Uyehara, proceeds from the sale of Dorothy Uyehara's residence in the amount of  
9 \$315,932.56. In or about January 2005, Respondent deposited the \$315,932.56 into respondent's  
10 client trust account at Wells Fargo Bank, account number \*\*\*\*\*-4258 on behalf of the client.  
11 Between on or about November 10, 2011, and through December 15, 2104, respondent  
12 dishonestly or grossly negligently misappropriated for respondent's own purposes \$112,963.47  
13 respondent's client Russelle Uyehara, or her beneficiaries, were entitled to receive, and thereby  
14 committed an act involving moral turpitude,

15 COUNT FOUR

16 Case No. 14-O-05187  
17 Business and Professions Code, section 6106  
18 [Moral Turpitude - Misrepresentation]

19 5. On or about November 10, 2011 and October 22, 2012, respondent stated in writing  
20 to the Los Angeles Superior Court in case number BP090218, *In re Dorothy Uyehara*, that  
21 respondent was maintaining \$112,971.65 of the assets of the estate of Dorothy Uyehara in her  
22 Wells Fargo client trust account when respondent knew or was grossly negligent in not knowing  
23 the statements were false, and thereby committed an act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or  
24 corruption in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6106.

25 COUNT FIVE

26 Case No. 14-O-05187  
27 Business and Professions Code, section 6103  
28 [Failure to Obey a Court Order]

6. Respondent disobeyed or violated an order of the court requiring Respondent to do or  
forbear an act connected with or in the course of Respondent's profession which Respondent

1 ought in good faith to do or forbear by failing to comply with the December 18, 2007, order of  
2 the Los Angeles Superior Court in case number BP090218, *In re Dorothy Uyehara*, that  
3 respondent had notice of, which required respondent to file a status report or a petition for final  
4 distribution of the estate assets by December 18, 2008, in willful violation of Business and  
5 Professions Code, section 6103.

6 COUNT SIX

7 Case No. 15-H-11371  
8 Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1-110  
9 [Failure to Comply with Repeval Conditions]

10 7. Respondent failed to comply with conditions attached to the private reprovall  
11 administered to respondent by the State Bar in case no. 13-O-13272 as follows, in willful  
12 violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 1-110:

- 13 A. Respondent was required to provide proof of passage of the Multistate  
14 Professional Responsibility Examination (MRPE) to the Office of Probation  
15 by January 9, 2014, and actually provided proof on January 12, 2015 that she  
16 took and passed the MPRE on November 1, 2014;
- 17 B. Respondent was required to provide proof of attendance at Ethics School and  
18 passage of the test given at the end of the session to the Office of Probation by  
19 January 9, 2015. Respondent completed Ethics School and passed the test on  
20 May 7, 2015, but never provide proof of the same to the Office of Probation;
- 21 C. Respondent filed the quarterly reports for April 2014, and January 2014, after  
22 their due date.

23 NOTICE - INACTIVE ENROLLMENT!

24 **YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER NOTIFIED THAT IF THE STATE BAR  
25 COURT FINDS, PURSUANT TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE  
26 SECTION 6007(c), THAT YOUR CONDUCT POSES A SUBSTANTIAL  
27 THREAT OF HARM TO THE INTERESTS OF YOUR CLIENTS OR TO  
28 THE PUBLIC, YOU MAY BE INVOLUNTARILY ENROLLED AS AN  
INACTIVE MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR. YOUR INACTIVE  
ENROLLMENT WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO ANY DISCIPLINE  
RECOMMENDED BY THE COURT.**

**NOTICE - COST ASSESSMENT!**

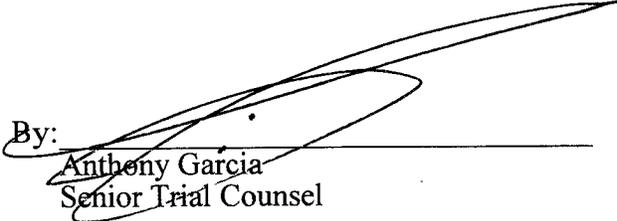
**IN THE EVENT THESE PROCEDURES RESULT IN PUBLIC DISCIPLINE, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF COSTS INCURRED BY THE STATE BAR IN THE INVESTIGATION, HEARING AND REVIEW OF THIS MATTER PURSUANT TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE SECTION 6086.10.**

Respectfully submitted,

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL

DATED: August 26, 2015

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Anthony Garcia  
Senior Trial Counsel

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

by

U.S. FIRST-CLASS MAIL / U.S. CERTIFIED MAIL / OVERNIGHT DELIVERY / FACSIMILE-ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

CASE NUMBER(s): 14-O-05187, 15-H-11371

I, the undersigned, am over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to the within action, whose business address and place of employment is the State Bar of California, 845 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California 90017, declare that:

- on the date shown below, I caused to be served a true copy of the within document described as follows:

NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

[ ] By U.S. First-Class Mail: (CCP §§ 1013 and 1013(a))
- in accordance with the practice of the State Bar of California for collection and processing of mail, I deposited or placed for collection and mailing in the City and County of Los Angeles.

[X] By U.S. Certified Mail: (CCP §§ 1013 and 1013(a))
- in accordance with the practice of the State Bar of California for collection and processing of mail, I deposited or placed for collection and mailing in the City and County of Los Angeles.

[ ] By Overnight Delivery: (CCP §§ 1013(c) and 1013(d))
- I am readily familiar with the State Bar of California's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for overnight delivery by the United Parcel Service ('UPS').

[ ] By Fax Transmission: (CCP §§ 1013(e) and 1013(f))
Based on agreement of the parties to accept service by fax transmission, I faxed the documents to the persons at the fax numbers listed herein below. No error was reported by the fax machine that I used. The original record of the fax transmission is retained on file and available upon request.

[ ] By Electronic Service: (CCP § 1010.6)
Based on a court order or an agreement of the parties to accept service by electronic transmission, I caused the documents to be sent to the person(s) at the electronic addresses listed herein below. I did not receive, within a reasonable time after the transmission, any electronic message or other indication that the transmission was unsuccessful.

[ ] (for U.S. First-Class Mail) in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing at Los Angeles, addressed to: (see below)

[X] (for Certified Mail) in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing as certified mail, return receipt requested,
Article No.: 9414 7266 9904 2010 0842 80 at Los Angeles, addressed to: (see below)

[ ] (for Overnight Delivery) together with a copy of this declaration, in an envelope, or package designated by UPS,
Tracking No.: addressed to: (see below)

Table with 4 columns: Person Served, Business-Residential Address, Fax Number, Courtesy Copy to. Row 1: Lorna Christine Washington, Law Office of Lorna C. Washington, 2600 W. Olive Ave., Ste. 500, Burbank, CA 91505, Electronic Address.

[ ] via inter-office mail regularly processed and maintained by the State Bar of California addressed to:

N/A

I am readily familiar with the State Bar of California's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, and overnight delivery by the United Parcel Service ('UPS'). In the ordinary course of the State Bar of California's practice, correspondence collected and processed by the State Bar of California would be deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day, and for overnight delivery, deposited with delivery fees paid or provided for, with UPS that same day.

I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date on the envelope or package is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing contained in the affidavit.

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Los Angeles, California, on the date shown below.

DATED: August 26, 2015

SIGNED:

Sandra Reynolds
Sandra Reynolds
Declarant