IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE 1501 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE 102, PHOENIX, AZ 85007-3231

IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA,

EDWARD P. MORIARITY, Bar No. 028066

Respondent.

No. PDJ-2014-9027 FINAL JUDGMENT OF DISBARMENT [State Bar File No. 12-2599] FILED: July 15, 2014

The undersigned Acting Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona, having reviewed the Consent to Disbarment filed on July 11, 2014, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., hereby accepts the same. Accordingly:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED accepting the Consent to Disbarment. **Respondent, Edward P. Moriarity, Bar No. 028066**, is hereby disbarred from the State Bar of Arizona and his name is hereby stricken from the roll of lawyers, effective thirty (30) days from the date of this Judgment of Disbarment. Respondent is no longer entitled to the rights and privileges of an Arizona lawyer, but remains subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Rule 72 Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., Respondent shall immediately comply with the requirements relating to notification of clients and others. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that no further disciplinary action shall be taken in reference to the matters that are the subject of the charges upon which the Consent to Disbarment and this Judgment are based.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the costs and expenses of the State Bar of

Arizona in this matter are waived pursuant to terms of the consent agreement.

DATED this 15th day of July, 2014.

Sandra E. Hunter

Sandra E. Hunter, Acting Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Copies of the foregoing mailed and emailed this 15th day of July, 2014, to:

Edward P. Moriarity Moriarity, Badarudden & Booke, LLC 736 S. Third Street West Missoula, MT 59801-2514 Email: Ed@mbblawfirm.com Emoriarity@mbblawfirm.com Respondent

Andrew F. Halaby John J. Bouma Trisha D. Farmer *Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.* 400 E. Van Buren St. Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202 Email: ahalaby@swlaw.com Volunteer Bar Counsel

Thomas M. Bayham Bayham Law Office, P.L.L.C. 310 S. Williams Blvd., Ste. 185 Tucson, AZ 85711 Email: tmb@tuslaw.com Volunteer Bar Counsel Meredith L. Vivona, Independent Bar Counsel 1501 W. Washington St., Ste. 229 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Phone: 602-452-3216 Email:mvivona@courts.az.gov Independent Bar Counsel

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by: <u>MSmith</u>

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| PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE SUPREME CONPT OF ARIZONA | |
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| JUL 11 2014 | |
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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE 1501 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE 102, PHOENIX, AZ 85007-3231

In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona,

Edward P. Moriarity, Bar No. 028066,

Respondent.

Case no.: PDJ-2014-9027

CONSENT TO DISBARMENT

I, Edward P. Moriarity, residing at 973 St. Andrews Drive, Bozeman, Montana 59715, voluntarily consent to disbarment as a member of the State Bar of Arizona and consent to the removal of my name from the roster of those permitted to practice before this court, and from the roster of the State Bar of Arizona.

I acknowledge that a formal complaint has been filed against me. I have read the complaint, and the charges there made against me. I further acknowledge that I do not desire to contest or defend the charges, but wish to consent to disbarment. I have been advised of and have had an opportunity to exercise my right to be represented in this matter by a lawyer. I consent to disbarment freely and voluntarily and not under coercion or intimidation. I am aware of the rules of the Supreme Court with respect to discipline, disability, resignation and reinstatement, and I understand that any future application by me for admission or reinstatement as a member of the State Bar of Arizona will be treated as an application by a member who has been disbarred for professional misconduct, as set forth in the complaint filed against me. The misconduct of which I am accused is described in the complaint, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

A proposed form of Judgment of Disbarment is attached hereto as Exhibit "B."

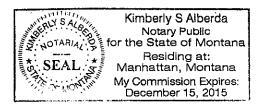
DONE AT ______, AM, on July 10, ,2014. Edward P. Moriarity

Edward P. Moriarity Respondent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 10 day of 300,000 day of 300,

Notary Public

My Commission expires:



| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 | Andrew F. Halaby John J. Bouma Trisha D. Farmer Volunteer Bar Counsel Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 400 E. Van Buren Street Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202 Phone: 602-382-6277 Thomas M. Bayham Volunteer Bar Counsel Bayham Law Office, P.L.L.C. 310 S. Williams Blvd., Suite 185 Tucson, AZ 85711 Phone: 520-790-9663 | OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA MAR 1 4 2014 FILED |
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| 9 10 | SUPREME COURT OF TI BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE PR | ESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE |
| 11 | 1501 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE In the Matter of a Member of the | PDJ-2014-902 7 |
| 12 | State Bar of Arizona, | COMPLAINT |
| 13 | Edward P. Moriarity, Bar No. 028066, | |
| 14 | Respondent. | |
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| 16 | For its complaint against Respondent, t | the State Bar alleges the following: |
| 17 | JURISDI | ICTION |
| 18 | 1. Edward P. Moriarity ("Respond | ent" or "Moriarity") was admitted on motion |
| 19 | to the Bar of the State of Arizona on Novemb | er 1, 2010. His bar number is 028066. |
| 20 | <u>OVER</u> | VIEW |
| 21 | 2. On behalf of Lisa Aubuchon and | d David Hendershott and their spouses |
| 22 | ("Plaintiffs"), Respondent caused to be filed a | nd maintained a Maricopa County Superior |
| 23 | Court lawsuit, Case No. CV 2011-014754 (the | e "Underlying Lawsuit"), against, among |
| 24 | others, complainants Edward Novak and Thor | nas Irvine, as well as their law firm |
| 25 | (collectively, the "Polsinelli Defendants"). | |
| 26 | 3. The Underlying Lawsuit's claim | is against the Polsinelli Defendants had no |
| 27 | factual or legal basis, and Respondent knew it | , both before filing the lawsuit and while |
| 28 | maintaining it thereafter. Respondent neverth | eless filed and maintained the Underlying |
| | - 1 | · 'EXHIBIT A' |

Lawsuit in an effort to make money under a contingent fee agreement with Plaintiffs and, 1 on information and belief, for other improper reasons. 2

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4. Respondent also, at a minimum and without limitation, knowingly disobeyed Arizona Rule of Civil Procedure 11(a) by having Aubuchon sign both the 4 5 original complaint and the amended complaint in the Underlying Lawsuit, rather than 6 signing it himself, and lied to and failed to cooperate with Bar Counsel by 7 mischaracterizing his representation of Aubuchon as "pro bono" and mischaracterizing his supposed pre-filing investigation in connection with the Complaint and First Amended 8 Complaint in the Underlying Matter.

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ALLEGATIONS AND COUNTS ARISING OUT OF THE UNDERLYING LAWSUIT'S LACK OF ANY FACTUAL OR LEGAL BASIS, AND RESPONDENT'S CORRESPONDING BAD FAITH CONDUCT

5. No legal or factual basis ever existed for the Underlying Lawsuit's claims against the Polsinelli Defendants.

14 6. On May 8, 2012, Judge Sally Duncan so found, generally and as to the 15 particular claims asserted against the Polsinelli Defendants, in the Underlying Lawsuit.

16 7. The Underlying Lawsuit was based on a supposed conspiracy regarding 17 funding of the Maricopa County court tower (the supposed "Court Tower Conspiracy").

18 8. In his January 11, 2013 letter served on Bar Counsel in connection with the 19 investigation in this matter, Respondent admitted that the Underlying Lawsuit was based 20 on the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy.

21 9. The Complaint and Amended Complaint in the Underlying Lawsuit, filed on 22 August 11, 2011 and August 12, 2011, respectively, also reveal that the Underlying 23 Lawsuit was based, in substantial part, on the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy.

24 10. Federal Case No. 2:09-cv-02492-GMS, filed on December 1, 2009 by 25 Maricopa County Sheriff Joseph Arpaio and then County Attorney Andrew Thomas (the 26 "RICO Suit"), was based on the same supposed Court Tower Conspiracy.

> 11. The RICO Suit was voluntarily dismissed in March 2010.

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1 12. The supposed Court Tower Conspiracy had no basis in fact. Assertions to
 2 the contrary in the Underlying Lawsuit were frivolous.

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13. The Underlying Lawsuit's allegations and claims based upon the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy had no basis in fact or law, and were frivolous.

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14. The hearing panel in Arizona Presiding Disciplinary Judge Case No. PDJ 2011-9002 against Thomas, Aubuchon, and Rachel Alexander (the "Disciplinary Matter") adjudged the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy as having no basis in fact. The hearing panel found, "The allegation that there was a conspiracy driving the Court Tower Project was factually impossible."

10 15. The Arizona Supreme Court affirmed the hearing panel's disbarment of
11 Aubuchon in the Disciplinary Matter. *In re Aubuchon*, 669 Ariz. Adv. Rep. 28, 309 P.3d
12 886 (2013).

13 16. According to the agreement of discipline by consent in *In re Spaw*, PDJ2012-9078, "[t]he Complaint... in the RICO case was devoid of any factual or legal
basis."

16 17. The respondent in *In re Alexander*, 232 Ariz. 1, 300 P.3d 536 (2013), who
17 bore substantial responsibility for maintaining the RICO Suit against Complainants Novak
18 and Irvine, among others, did not dispute the RICO Suit's frivolity in her appeal to the
19 Arizona Supreme Court from the hearing panel's decision.

20 18. Respondent knew before the Underlying Lawsuit was filed that the lawsuit's
21 claims against the Polsinelli Defendants had no factual or legal basis.

19. Respondent represented Aubuchon in the Disciplinary Matter beginning in
February 2010.

24 20. Respondent knew from the November 23, 2010 report of investigation
25 ("ROI") in the Disciplinary Matter that Independent Bar Counsel in that matter had found
26 no evidence supporting the existence of the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy.

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1 21. Respondent knew from that same ROI that the motivation for pursuing the 2 supposed Court Tower Conspiracy was personal animosity by Thomas, Aubuchon, and the Maricopa County Sheriff against, among others, Complainant Irvine. 3

4 22. Respondent knew from Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk's August 1, 5 2011, deposition in the Disciplinary Matter, in which Respondent participated as counsel 6 to Aubuchon, that Polk had not seen a "shred of evidence" supporting the existence of the 7 supposed Court Tower Conspiracy --- from Plaintiffs, from the Maricopa County 8 Attorney's Office ("MCAO"), from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office ("MCSO"), or 9 any other source.

10 23. Respondent knew from Thomas's July 11, 2011, deposition in the Disciplinary Matter, in which Respondent participated as counsel to Aubuchon, that 11 12 nothing impeded MCSO from further investigating the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy 13 except, supposedly, the need for grand jury subpoena power. But Respondent knew from 14 the Thomas deposition, at a minimum, that this power had been vested in Polk.

15 24. Respondent knew when the Underlying Lawsuit was filed that the supposed Court Tower Conspiracy formed the basis of the RICO Suit, and that the RICO Suit had 16 17 been voluntarily dismissed by plaintiffs in early 2010.

18 25. Respondent knew from the ROI in the Disciplinary Matter that Independent Bar Counsel had found no evidence that an investigation was conducted into the facts 19 20 alleged in the RICO Suit, and that Aubuchon herself had admitted as much.

21 26. Respondent knew from that same ROI that Independent Bar Counsel viewed 22 the RICO case as meritless and frivolous.

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27. Respondent knew from Rachel Alexander's July 21, 2011, deposition in the 24 Disciplinary Matter, in which Respondent participated as counsel to Aubuchon, that 25 Thomas had given the RICO Suit to Alexander to run; that Peter Spaw had expressed 26 serious reservations to Alexander about the RICO Suit's viability; and that Alexander had 27 done no independent investigation of the RICO Suit's factual basis, including the 28 supposed Court Tower Conspiracy.

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128.Respondent caused to be filed, and maintained, the Underlying Lawsuit in2bad faith.

3 29. Judge Duncan specifically found the Underlying Lawsuit to have been filed
4 "vexatiously" against the Polsinelli Defendants.

5 30. Respondent caused the Underlying Lawsuit to be filed for personal financial
6 gain.

7 31. Respondent worked extensively with Aubuchon, Hendershott, and Thomas
8 to frame notices of claim against Maricopa County, the State of Arizona, and certain
9 named actors, including Complainants Novak and Irvine, in early 2011.

32. Respondent's objective was to include as many defendants as possible,
including Complainants Novak and Irvine, in order to increase the potential pool of public
dollars that would be available for his desired contingent fee recovery.

33. Both the Complaint and the Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter
alleged that Complainants Irvine and Novak, among others, were "current or former
employees, agents, contractors, elected officials or service providers of Maricopa County"
and also alleged that these defendants, among others, were "acting in their official
capacity."

18 34. On January 11, 2013, in response to Bar Counsel's investigation, 19 Respondent asserted that he "spent most of the preceding week as well as most of the day 20 of August 11, 2011, with his clients Lisa Aubuchon and David Hendershott, reviewing the 21 facts, their allegations, and hundreds of documents that were pertinent to the case. ... 22 After reviewing the documents and speaking with his clients, Mr. Moriarity believed that 23 there was a good faith basis in law and fact for the claims." No evidence supports this 24 assertion. To the contrary, in his supplemental response to this investigation dated 25 December 4, 2013, Respondent asserted that he was in Bozeman, Montana from August 1 26 through August 9, 2011.

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35. Respondent appeared on Aubuchon's behalf in several lengthy depositions
 in connection with the Disciplinary Matter, on August 1, 4, and 5, 2011 (telephonically)
 and on August 9, 2011 (in person).

36. Respondent not only caused the Underlying Lawsuit to be filed in bad faith,
but maintained it in bad faith over the Polsinelli Defendants' opposition.

6 37. In an October 18, 2011 opposition brief to a dispositive motion filed by the
7 Polsinelli Defendants in the Underlying Lawsuit, Respondent referred to "Defendants'
8 years-long course of conduct—*undertaken in concert*—that was intended to destroy the
9 professional careers and personal lives of two individuals whose statutory law
10 enforcement duties required them to prosecute public corruption in which Defendants
11 were complicit."

38. In that same brief, Respondent incorporated by reference arguments he
made in an October 13, 2011, filing, arguing that Arizona's liberal pleading standards
required denial of the motion when "any state of facts could conceivably be proved which
would entitle the [plaintiff] to relief." That is, for procedural advantage, Respondent
exploited Arizona's liberal pleading standards to defend as possibly true what he knew to
be false.

39. Even after Plaintiffs abandoned their claims against the Polsinelli
Defendants in the Underlying Lawsuit, by seeking leave to file a Second Amended
Complaint that included no claims against the Polsinelli Defendants, Respondent's law
partner Bradley Booke defended Plaintiffs' actions in filing the Complaint by arguing that
Plaintiffs

turned County government inside out to try to get records that would prove or disprove that crimes of improper expenditure of public funds, financial crimes, had been committed. The people who run County government didn't like that. Those people hired Mr. Irvine and Mr. Novak and their firm to stop the investigation and Mr. Novak and Mr. Irvine went through a long sequence of very specific actions in order to stop that investigation from occurring.

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| 1 | 40. By the time Mr. Booke made this argument, on May 4, 2012, the underlying |
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| 2 | inference — that the Court Tower project represented some sort of wrongdoing which |
| 3 | implicated the Polsinelli Defendants in yet further wrongdoing in order to cover up their |
| 4 | supposed wrongdoing in conjunction with that project — had long since been debunked. |
| 5 | 41. On information and belief, Respondent also filed and caused to be |
| 6 | maintained the Underlying Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants in order to |
| 7 | improperly influence in Aubuchon's favor the proceedings in the Disciplinary Matter, the |
| 8 | hearing of which commenced September 12, 2011. |
| 9 | <u>COUNT ONE</u> |
| 10 | (Violation of ER 3.1) |
| 11 | 42. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 12 | 43. Respondent's actions in causing to be filed and maintaining the Underlying |
| 13 | Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants violated ER 3.1, which provides, "A lawyer |
| 14 | shall not bring or defend a proceeding, or assert or controvert an issue therein, unless there |
| 15 | is a good faith basis in law and fact for doing so that is not frivolous" |
| 16 | <u>COUNT TWO</u> |
| 17 | (Violation of ER 3.3) |
| 18 | 44. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 19 | 45. Respondent's actions in causing to be filed and maintaining the Underlying |
| 20 | Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants violated ER 3.3, which provides, "(a) A lawyer |
| 21 | shall not knowingly: (1) make a false statement of fact or law to a tribunal or fail to |
| 22 | correct a false statement of material fact or law previously made to the tribunal by the |
| 23 | lawyer" |
| 24 | COUNT THREE |
| 25 | (Violation of ER 4.4) |
| 26 | 46. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 27 | 47. Respondent's actions in causing to be filed and maintaining the Underlying |
| 28 | Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants violated ER 4.4, which provides, "(a) In |
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| 1 | representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no substantial purpose other | |
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| 2 | than to embarrass, delay, or burden any other person" | |
| 3 | COUNT FOUR | |
| 4 | (Violation of ER 8.4) | |
| 5 | 48. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. | |
| 6 | 49. Respondent's actions in causing to be filed and maintaining the Underlying | |
| 7 | Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants violated ER 8.4, which provides, "It is | |
| 8 | professional misconduct for a lawyer to: (a) violate the Rules of Professional conduct | |
| 9 | ; (c) engage in conduct involving dishonesty or misrepresentation; or (d) engage in | |
| 10 | conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice." | |
| 11 | COUNT FIVE | |
| 12 | (Violation of Arizona Supreme Court Rule 41(g)) | |
| 13 | 50. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. | |
| 14 | 51. Respondent's actions in causing to be filed and maintaining the Underlying | |
| 15 | Lawsuit against the Polsinelli Defendants violated Arizona Supreme Court Rule 41(g), | |
| 16 | which bars unprofessional conduct as defined in Arizona Supreme Court Rule 31(a)(2)(E). | |
| 17 | FURTHER ALLEGATIONS AND COUNTS ARISING OUT OF RESPONDENT'S KNOWING VIOLATION OF ARIZ. R. CIV. P. 11(a) IN HAVING AUBUCHON SIGN, AS HIS PROXY, THE | |
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| 19 | FILED COMPLAINT AND THE FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT IN THE UNDERLYING MATTER | |
| 20 | 52. Arizona Rule of Civil Procedure 11(a) provides, "Every pleading of a | |
| 21 | party represented by an attorney shall be signed by at least one attorney of record in the | |
| 22 | attorney's individual name." | |
| 23 | 53. At Respondent's request, both the Complaint, filed on August 11, 2011, and | |
| 24 | the First Amended Complaint, filed the following day, were filed on Respondent's | |
| 25 | pleading paper, and with Respondent's header, yet (illegibly) signed by Lisa Aubuchon | |
| 26 | "for" Respondent. | |
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| 1 | 54. This action had the injurious effect of creating the false impression that an |
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| 2 | officer of the court, and not merely litigant Aubuchon, had independently reviewed the |
| 3 | allegations of those pleadings and determined that they passed muster under applicable |
| 4 | statutes and rules, such as A.R.S. § 12-349, Ariz. R. Civ. P. 11, and ER 3.1. |
| 5 | COUNT SIX |
| 6 | (Violation of ER 3.4) |
| 7 | 55. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 8 | 56. Respondent's actions in causing Aubuchon to sign and file the Complaint |
| 9 | and First Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter violated ER 3.4, which provides, |
| 10 | "A lawyer shall not (c) knowingly disobey an obligation under the rules of the tribunal |
| 11 | except for an open refusal based on an assertion that no valid obligation exists," through |
| 12 | ER 8.4, which provides, "It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to (a) violate or |
| 13 | attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, knowingly assist or induce another |
| 14 | to do so, or do so through the acts of another." See also ER 5.1(c)(1) ("A lawyer shall be |
| 15 | responsible for another lawyer's violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct if: (1) the |
| 16 | lawyer orders or, with knowledge of the specific conduct, ratifies the conduct involved |
| 17 | ."). |
| 18 | <u>COUNT SEVEN</u> |
| 19 | (Violation of ER 1.2(d)) |
| 20 | 57. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 21 | 58. Respondent's actions in causing Aubuchon to sign and file the Complaint |
| 22 | and First Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter violated ER 1.2(d), which |
| 23 | provides, "A lawyer shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that |
| 24 | the lawyer knows is fraudulent." |
| 25 | <u>COUNT EIGHT</u> |
| 26 | (Violation of ER 5.1(b)) |
| 27 | 59. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
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| 1 | 60. Respondent's actions in causing Aubuchon to sign and file the Complaint |
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| 2 | and First Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter violated ER 5.1(b), which |
| 3 | provides, "A lawyer having direct supervisory authority over another lawyer shall make |
| 4 | reasonable efforts to ensure that the other lawyer conforms to the Rules of Professional |
| 5 | Conduct." See also ER 5.1(c)(1). |
| 6 | <u>COUNT NINE</u> |
| 7 | (Violation of ER 8.4) |
| 8 | 61. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 9 | 62. Respondent's actions in causing Aubuchon to sign and file the Complaint |
| 10 | and First Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter violated ER 8.4, which provides, |
| 11 | "It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to: (a) violate the Rules of Professional |
| 12 | conduct; (c) engage in conduct involving dishonesty or misrepresentation; or |
| 13 | (d) engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice." |
| 14 | <u>COUNT TEN</u> |
| 15 | (Violation of Arizona Supreme Court Rule 41(g)) |
| 16 | 63. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 17 | 64. Respondent's actions in causing Aubuchon to sign and file the Complaint |
| 18 | and First Amended Complaint in the Underlying Matter violated Arizona Supreme Court |
| 19 | Rule 41(g), which bars unprofessional conduct as defined in Arizona Supreme Court Rule |
| 20 | 31(a)(2)(E). |
| 21 | FURTHER ALLEGATIONS AND COUNTS ARISING OUT OF |
| 22 | RESPONDENT'S LIES TO AND FAILURE TO COOPERATE WITH BAR COUNSEL |
| 23 | 65. In his January 11, 2013 response to Bar Counsel's investigation of this |
| 24 | matter, Respondent portrayed his representation of Aubuchon in the Disciplinary Matter |
| 25 | as "pro bono" — a characterization he maintained in his additional correspondence dated |
| 26 | October 31 and December 4, 2013. |
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| 1 | 66. Not until Respondent's letter dated October 31, 2013, however, did |
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| 2 | Respondent reveal that (a) he had a contingent fee agreement with Aubuchon dated |
| 3 | February 7, 2011, and (b) the supposed conversion to a "pro bono" engagement did not |
| 4 | occur until March 1, 2012. |
| 5 | 67. The supposed conversion from contingent fee status to "pro bono" status |
| 6 | was undocumented, see ER 1.5(c), and did not occur until after all of the following: |
| 7 | (a) the filing of the Complaint and the First Amended Complaint in the |
| 8 | Underlying Lawsuit, on August 11-12, 2011; |
| 9 | (b) the conclusion of the panel hearing in the Disciplinary Matter, on |
| 10 | November 2, 2011; and |
| 11 | (c) the January 20, 2012, oral argument on motions to dismiss in the |
| 12 | Underlying Lawsuit, in which Judge Duncan expressed concern about the basis of |
| 13 | Plaintiffs' claims against the Polsinelli Defendants while entertaining Respondent's |
| 14 | request to file yet another amended complaint. |
| 15 | 68. It was dishonest and uncooperative to portray to Respondent's |
| 16 | representation of Aubuchon as "pro bono" under the circumstances. |
| 17 | 69. In his January 11, 2013, response to Bar Counsel, Respondent portrayed |
| 18 | himself as having personally met with Aubuchon and Hendershott during the week |
| 19 | preceding the August 11, 2011 filing of the Complaint, in order to evaluate whether there |
| 20 | was a factual and legal basis for their allegations and claims in the Underlying Matter. |
| 21 | 70. In his December 4, 2013, response to Bar Counsel, Respondent switched |
| 22 | gears and revealed that he had not even been in Phoenix until shortly before August 11, |
| 23 | 2011. Moreover, Respondent was heavily involved in depositions in the Disciplinary |
| 24 | Matter during the period in question. |
| 25 | 71. Respondent's portrayal of his pre-filing investigation was dishonest and |
| 26 | uncooperative. |
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| 1 | COUNT ELEVEN |
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| 2 | (Violation of ER 4.1) |
| 3 | 72. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 4 | 73. Respondent's misrepresentations regarding the supposedly "pro bono" |
| 5 | nature of his representation of Aubuchon, as well as his supposed pre-filing investigation, |
| 6 | violated ER 4.1, which provides, "In the course of representing a client a lawyer shall not |
| 7 | knowingly: (a) make a false statement of material fact or law to a third person" |
| 8 | COUNT TWELVE |
| 9 | (Violation of ER 8.1) |
| 10 | 74. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 11 | 75. Respondent's misrepresentations regarding the supposedly "pro bono" |
| 12 | nature of his representation of Aubuchon, as well as his supposed pre-filing investigation, |
| 13 | violated ER 8.1, which provides, "[A] lawyer in connection with a disciplinary matter, |
| 14 | shall not: (a) knowingly make a false statement of material fact; or (b) fail to disclose a |
| 15 | fact necessary to correct a misapprehension known by the person to have arisen in the |
| 16 | matter" |
| 17 | <u>COUNT THIRTEEN</u> |
| 18 | (Violation of ER 8.4) |
| 19 | 76. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 20 | 77. Respondent's misrepresentations regarding the supposedly "pro bono" |
| 21 | nature of his representation of Aubuchon, as well as his supposed pre-filing investigation, |
| 22 | violated ER 8.4, which provides, "It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to: |
| 23 | (a) violate the Rules of Professional Conduct" |
| 24 | <u>COUNT FOURTEEN</u> |
| 25 | (Violation of Arizona Supreme Court Rule 54(d)) |
| 26 | 78. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 27 | 79. Respondent's misrepresentations regarding the supposedly "pro bono" |
| 28 | nature of his representation of Aubuchon, as well as his supposed pre-filing investigation, |
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| 1 | violated Arizona Supreme Court Rule 54(d), which subjects an attorney to discipline for |
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| 2 | refusal to cooperate with bar personnel in connection with any disciplinary investigation |
| 3 | or proceeding. |
| 4 | <u>COUNT FIFTEEN</u> |
| 5 | (Violation of Arizona Supreme Court Rule 41(g)) |
| 6 | 80. All prior factual allegations are incorporated herein. |
| 7 | 81. Respondent's misrepresentations regarding the supposedly "pro bono" |
| 8 | nature of his representation of Aubuchon, as well as his supposed pre-filing investigation, |
| 9 | violated Arizona Supreme Court Rule 41(g), which bars unprofessional conduct as |
| 10 | defined in Arizona Supreme Court Rule 31(a)(2)(E). |
| 11 | RESPONDENT'S CONDUCT INJURED THE POLSINELLI DEFENDANTS AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM |
| 12 | 82. Respondent's conduct injured the Polsinelli Defendants and their law firm |
| 13 | by, at a minimum, subjecting them to the stress, inconvenience, and expense of defending |
| 14 | a vexatious, groundless civil lawsuit against them. |
| 15 | 83. Respondent's conduct also injured the legal system by, at a minimum, |
| 16 | forcing the Maricopa County Superior Court to expend the time and resources necessary |
| 17 | to dispose of those claims and, ultimately, the entire Underlying Lawsuit. As of |
| 18 | November 18, 2013, the Underlying Lawsuit had consumed more than 225 court docket |
| 19 | entries, including five hearings, and had resulted in separate attorneys' fees judgments not |
| 20 | only in favor of the Polsinelli Defendants, but also in favor of Maricopa County; |
| 21 | Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery; certain other individual County defendants; |
| 22 | and certain State defendants. |
| 23 | 84. The facts, disciplinary violations, and injuries alleged herein are alleged |
| 24 25 | without prejudice to the Bar's right to allege any additional facts, violations, injuries, or |
| 25 26 | other matter which may be revealed upon further investigation, disclosure, or discovery, |
| 20 27 | and to pursue corresponding discipline for same. |
| 27 28 | WHEREFORE, Bar Counsel prays that Respondent be found to have engaged in |
| 20 | |
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| 1 | misconduct under the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Rules of |
|----|--|
| 2 | Professional Conduct; that Respondent be appropriately disciplined for his misconduct; |
| 3 | that Respondent be required to take any and all remedial action appropriate under the |
| 4 | circumstances; and that Respondent be assessed the full costs of this proceeding. |
| 5 | DATED this 14th day of March, 2014. |
| 6 | |
| 7 | Andrew F. Halaby |
| 8 | John J. Bouma Trisha D. Farmer |
| 9 | Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. |
| 10 | Volunteer Bar Counsel |
| 11 | Thomas M. Bayham Bayham Law Office, P.L.L.C. |
| 12 | Volunteer Bar Counsel |
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ORIGINAL filed with the disciplinary clerk. COPIES of the foregoing mailed and sent by certified mail/delivery restricted this 14th day of March, 2014, to: Edward P. Moriarity Moriarity, Badaruddin & Booke, LLC 736 S. Third Street West Missoula, MT 59801-2514 OD macz

- 15 -

BEFORE THE ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE PROBABLE CAUSE COMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA,

No. 12-2599

EDWARD P. MORIARITY, Bar No. 028066

6.5

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

FILED

JAN 2 9 2014 /

STATE BAR OF ARY 20

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on January 17, 2014, pursuant to Rules 50 and 55,

Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation.

By a vote of 6-0-3¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 12-2599.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED pursuant to Rules 55(c) and 58(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.,

authorizing the State Bar Counsel to prepare and file a complaint with the Disciplinary Clerk.

Parties may not file motions for reconsideration of this Order.

DATED this 29 day of January, 2014.

Famerie F. LV

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Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair) Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona Original filed this $29\frac{4h}{2}$ day of January, 2014, with:

 v^{\pm}

Lawyer Regulation Records Department State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266

Copy mailed this 31^{34} day of January, 2014, to:

Edward P. Moriarity Moriarity Badaruddin & Booke LLC 736 South 3rd Street West Missoula, Montana 59801-2514 Respondent

Copy emailed this 3^{\pm} day of January, 2014, to:

Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 E-mail: <u>ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov</u>

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266

by: Rodry T. Buse

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE 1501 W. WASHINGTON, SUITE 102, PHOENIX, AZ 85007-3231

In the Matter of a Disbarred Non-Member of the State Bar of Arizona,

Edward P. Moriarity, Bar No. 028066,

Respondent.

Case No.: PDJ-2014-9027 FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER

The undersigned acting Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona, having reviewed the Consent to Disbarment filed on ______, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., hereby accepts the same. Accordingly:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED accepting the consent to disbarment. Respondent, Edward P. Moriarity, Bar No. 028066, is hereby disbarred from the State Bar of Arizona and his name is hereby stricken from the roll of lawyers, effective immediately. Respondent is no longer entitled to the rights and privileges of an Arizona lawyer, but remains subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 72 Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., Respondent shall immediately comply with the requirements relating to notification of clients and others.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Echibit B

Sandra Hunter, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Copies of the foregoing mailed and emailed this _____ day of _____, 2014, to:

Respondent, Edward P. Moriarity Moriarity, Badarudden & Booke, LLC 736 S. Third Street West Missoula, MT 59801-2514 Ed@mbblawfirm.com Emoriarity@mbblawfirm.com

Andrew F. Halaby John J. Bouma Trisha D. Farmer Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 400 E. Van Buren St. Phoenix, AZ 85004-2202 ahalaby@swlaw.com Volunteer Bar Counsel

Thomas M. Bayham Bayham Law Office, P.L.L.C. 310 S. Williams Blvd., Ste. 185 Tucson, AZ 85711 tmb@tuslaw.com Volunteer Bar Counsel

Meredith L. Vivona, Independent Bar Counsel 1501 W. Washington St., Ste. 229 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Phone: 602-452-3216 mvivona@courts.az.gov Independent Bar Counsel Lawyer Regulation Records Manager State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Sandra.montoya@staff.azbar.org

By:_____