#### 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,

WILLIAM G. WAS III, Bar No. 025909

Respondent.

PDJ 2014-9091

FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER

[State Bar No. 13-3034]

FILED OCTOBER 23, 2014

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona, having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on October 10, 2014, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., hereby accepts the parties' proposed agreement. Accordingly:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent, William G. Was III, is hereby Reprimanded and placed on one (1) year probation for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents, effective the date of this order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as a term of that probation, Respondent shall complete the following CLE programs: "Fee Agreements, Privileges and the 'No Contact' Rule" (3 hours) and "CLE Snippet: ER 1.8. Conflict of Interest: Current Clients: Specific Rules" (.25 hours). Probation may terminate early upon proof of

completion of the listed CLE's and upon Respondent providing hand-written notes regarding the CLE's to Bar Counsel.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent pay the costs and expenses of the State Bar of Arizona in the amount of \$1,200.00. There are no costs or expenses incurred by the disciplinary clerk and/or Presiding Disciplinary Judge's Office in connection with these disciplinary proceedings.

**DATED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2014.

William J. O'Neil

William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Copies of the foregoing mailed/<u>emailed</u> this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2014, to:

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr
Osborn Maledon PA
2929 North Central Avenue,
Suite 2100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765
Email: gsturr@omlaw.com
Respondent's Counsel

Hunter F. Perlmeter Staff Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Email: <u>LRO@staff.azbar.org</u>

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

by: JAlbright

#### 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,

WILLIAM G. WAS III, Bar No. 025909

Respondent.

PDJ 2014-9091

REPORT ACCEPTING CONSENT FOR DISCIPLINE

[State Bar No. 13-3034]

FILED OCTOBER 23, 2014

An Agreement for Discipline by Consent (Agreement) was filed on October 10, 2014 pursuant to Rule 57(a) of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court. Pursuant to that rule the parties may tender an agreement regarding a respondent prior to a finding of probable cause. Such tender is a conditional admission of unethical conduct in exchange for a stated form of discipline, other than disbarment. Upon filing such agreement, the presiding disciplinary judge (PDJ), "shall accept, reject or recommend modification of the agreement as appropriate."

Notice of the Agreement was provided to complainant on August 29, 2014. The complaint expressed a desire to review the Agreement prior to submitting any objections. On October 16, 2014, the PDJ filed recommendations regarding the consent agreement.

By email dated October 17, 2014, the disciplinary clerk was notified that the complainant was provided a copy of the Agreement and on October 21, 2014, the

complainant advised bar counsel he had reviewed the Agreement and would not be filing an objection. Accordingly:

IT IS ORDERED incorporating by this reference the Agreement and any

supporting documents by this reference. The agreed upon sanctions are: Reprimand

and one (1) year of probation (continuing legal education). Respondent also agrees

to pay costs associated with the disciplinary proceedings of \$1,200.00.

IT IS ORDERED the Agreement is accepted. A final judgment and order was

submitted simultaneously with the Agreement. Costs as submitted are approved in

the amount of \$1,200.00. The proposed final judgment and order having been

reviewed are approved as to form. Now therefore, the final judgment and order is

signed this date.

**DATED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2014.

William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Copies of the foregoing mailed/<u>emailed</u> this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2014, to:

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr Osborn Maledon PA

2929 North Central Avenue,

**Suite 2100** 

Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765

Email: gsturr@omlaw.com

Respondent's Counsel

Hunter F. Perlmeter Staff Bar Counsel

State Bar of Arizona

4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100

Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266

Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

2

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

by: <u>JAlbright</u>

# 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,

WILLIAM G. WAS, III, Bar No. 025909

Respondent.

PDJ 2014-9091

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CONSENT AGREEMENT

[State Bar No. 13-3034]

FILED OCTOBER 16, 2015

An Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on October 10, 2014, was submitted pursuant to Rule 57(a) of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court. Pursuant to that rule the parties may tender an agreement regarding a respondent prior to a finding of probable cause. Such tender is a conditional admission of unethical conduct in exchange for a stated form of discipline, other than disbarment. Upon filing such agreement, the presiding disciplinary judge, "shall accept, reject or recommend modification of the agreement as appropriate."

The PDJ is inclined to accept the agreement, however, the agreement states under Rule 53(b)(3), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., notice of this agreement was provided to the complainant by letter on August 29, 2014. "The state bar shall advise the complainant of any...pending agreement for discipline by consent." As required by Rule 53, the response of the complainant, dated September 3, 2014, was attached to the agreement. In the response, the complainant states a desire to review the

consent agreement. "I would like a copy of the consent agreement in order to fully evaluate the admissions, findings of fact, conclusions of law and agreed upon terms." It is not clear whether a copy of the consent agreement was provided to the complainant.

This matter may be set for a hearing or alternatively, if the parties agree and Bar counsel has delivered a copy of the consent agreement to the complainant, Bar counsel is authorized to notify the clerk of that fact by email, informing the clerk whether an additional response was received or not. If a further response has been received, Bar counsel shall attach that response to the email for the review of the PDJ. If no further response has been received, this agreement shall be accepted.

If a copy of the consent agreement has not been provided to the complainant, bar counsel shall notify the clerk by email and immediately provide a copy of the consent agreement to the complainant and advise the complainant any written objection must be submitted to the state bar within five (5) business days of that notification. Thereafter, bar counsel shall notify the clerk of whether a further objection has been received, attaching that response to the email or notifying the clerk, time has expired and no response was received.

Regardless, the parties shall provide the clerk with notice of which manner they choose to proceed. As with any area of litigation, there are no sure outcomes. The burden of proof upon the State Bar is by clear and convincing evidence, not merely by a preponderance of the evidence. The parties negotiate from a viewpoint of the evidence as relates to alleged violations of the ethical rules. As a result, while consent agreements may not perfectly resolve each issue for a complainant, they bring a sure result. In any event, any complainant may be reminded, attorney

discipline is not intended to punish the offending attorney, although the sanction imposed may have that incidental effect. *In re Schwartz*, 141 Ariz. 266, (1984).

**DATED** this  $16^{TH}$  day of October, 2014.

William J. O'Neil

William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Copies of the foregoing mailed/<u>emailed</u> this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014, to:

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr
Osborn Maledon PA
2929 North Central Avenue,
Suite 2100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765
Email: gsturr@omlaw.com
Respondent's Counsel

Hunter F. Perlmeter Staff Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

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

by: <u>JAlbright</u>

Hunter F. Perlmeter, Bar No. 024755 Staff Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Telephone: (602) 340-7278

Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr, Bar No. 014063 Osborn Maledon PA 2929 North Central Avenue, Suite 2100 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765 Telephone: (602) 640-9377

Email: <u>gsturr@omlaw.com</u> Respondent's Counsel

# BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

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

WILLIAM G. WAS III, Bar No. 025909,

Respondent.

P	D.	<b>J</b> 2	0	1	4-	•

AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT

State Bar No. 13-3034

The State Bar of Arizona, through undersigned Bar Counsel, and Respondent, William G. Was III, through counsel, hereby submit their Tender of Admissions and Agreement for Discipline by Consent, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. Respondent voluntarily waives the right to an adjudicatory hearing, unless otherwise ordered, and waives all motions, defenses, objections or requests which have been made or raised, or could be asserted thereafter, if the conditional admission and proposed form of discipline is approved.

Pursuant to Rule 53(b)(3), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., notice of this agreement was provided to the complainant by letter on August 29, 2014. In the letter, Complainant

was notified of his opportunity to file a written objection to the agreement with the State Bar within five (5) business days of bar counsel's notice. The Complainant objected to the agreement on September 3, 2014. The objection letter is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

Respondent conditionally admits that his conduct, as set forth below, violated Rule 42, ER(s) 1.8 and 4.2 and Rule 54(d)(2). Upon acceptance of this agreement, Respondent agrees to accept imposition of the following discipline: Reprimand and one year Probation. Respondent also agrees to pay the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The State Bar's Statement of Costs and Expenses is attached hereto as Exhibit "B."

#### **FACTS**

#### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 1. Respondent was admitted to practice in Arizona on February 14, 2008.
- 2. During the relevant time period, Respondent worked full time for businesses that were not engaged in the practice of law.

# COUNT ONE (File No. 13-3034/Alexander)

- 3. Complainant and Respondent are former friends.
- 4. During 2010, Complainant, Respondent and others were involved in establishing and/or operating a bar and restaurant in Scottsdale, Arizona.
- 5. Respondent was involved in the management and operation of the bar and restaurant. Among the services Respondent provided to the entity which owned the bar and restaurant were services that constitute the practice of law, such as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Respondent understands that the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding include the costs and expenses of the State Bar of Arizona, the Disciplinary Clerk, the Probable Cause Committee, the Presiding Disciplinary Judge and the Supreme Court of Arizona.

interacting with a law firm retained to represent the entity and its members in connection with a lawsuit brought against the former managing member of the entity.

- 6. Respondent believes he acquired an equity interest in the Scottsdale entity, but such an interest was not documented in writing.
- 7. Complainant, Respondent and others were later involved in establishing and/or operating a bar and restaurant in Tempe, Arizona.
- 8. Respondent was involved in the management and operation of the Tempe bar and restaurant. He also provided services that constitute the practice of law, such as drafting an operating agreement for the entity that owned the bar and restaurant.
- 9. Respondent believes he acquired an equity interest in the Tempe entity, but such an interest was not documented through a fully executed operating agreement.
  - 10. Respondent admits that his conduct failed to comply with ER 1.8(a).
- 11. By May 2013, the relationship between Complainant, Respondent and others associated with the Scottsdale and Tempe entities had deteriorated.
- 12. On May 10, 2013, an attorney retained by Complainant sent an email to Respondent that stated, among other things, "please do not communicate or attempt to communicate with [Complainant]."
- 13. Upon receiving the email, Respondent sent two text messages to Complainant.
- 14. On August 16, 2013, Complainant filed a lawsuit against Respondent and others involved in the Scottsdale and Tempe entities.

- 15. On November 4, 2013, Complainant filed a bar charge against Respondent.
- 16. The Bar sent Respondent a screening letter on November 12, 2013, requiring a response within 20 days. When Respondent failed to respond, a second letter was sent on December 10, 2013, requiring a response within 10 days, but no response was received.
- 17. On January 7, Respondent called the Bar and indicated that he had taken more than a month off of work for the holidays and had just received the second request letter and never received the first screening letter. Bar counsel emailed the original letter and the bar charge to Respondent on the same day and asked Respondent to provide a response within 10 days. Respondent did not furnish a response until May 8, 2014.

#### **Rule Violations**

- 1. ER 1.8(a) prohibits a lawyer from entering a business transaction with a client or knowingly acquiring an ownership, possessory, security or other pecuniary interest adverse to a client without the requirements detailed in ER 1.8. Respondent, while providing legal services to, and taking steps to acquire an equity interest in, the Scottsdale and Tempe entities, failed to comply with such requirements.
- 2. ER 4.2 prohibits a lawyer in representing a client from communicating about the subject of the representation with a party the lawyer knows to be represented by another lawyer in the matter. Although Respondent was not representing a client at the time that he communicated directly with Complainant, lawyers do not have the right to behave inappropriately while acting as lawyers, even if they are representing themselves. *In re Ronwin* 136 Ariz. 566, 571.
- 3. Rule 54(d)(2) requires a Respondent to respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel. Respondent failed, for a period of months, to provide a response to the bar charge.

#### **CONDITIONAL ADMISSIONS**

Respondent's admissions are being tendered in exchange for the form of discipline stated below and is submitted freely and voluntarily and not as a result of coercion or intimidation.

Respondent conditionally admits that his conduct violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., specifically ERs 1.8, 4.2 and Rule 54(d)(2).

#### **RESTITUTION**

Restitution is not an issue in this matter.

#### **SANCTION**

Respondent and the State Bar of Arizona agree that based on the facts and circumstances of this matter, as set forth above, the following sanction is appropriate: Reprimand and probation for 1 year.

#### **PROBATION**

Probation will require completion of the following CLEs: "Fee Agreements, Privileges and the 'No Contact' Rule" (3 hours) and "CLE Snippet: ER 1.8. Conflict of Interest: Current Clients: Specific Rules" (.25 hours). Probation may terminate early upon proof of completion of the listed CLEs and upon Respondent providing hand-written notes regarding the CLE's to bar counsel.

#### **NON-COMPLIANCE LANGUAGE**

In the event that Respondent fails to comply with any of the foregoing probation terms, and information thereof is received by the State Bar of Arizona, Bar Counsel shall file a notice of noncompliance with the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, pursuant to Rule 60(a)(5), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. The Presiding Disciplinary

Judge may conduct a hearing within 30 days to determine whether a term of probation has been breached and, if so, to recommend an appropriate sanction. If there is an allegation that Respondent failed to comply with any of the foregoing terms, the burden of proof shall be on the State Bar of Arizona to prove noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence.

#### **LEGAL GROUNDS IN SUPPORT OF SANCTION**

In determining an appropriate sanction, the parties consulted the American Bar Association's *Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions (Standards)* pursuant to Rule 57(a)(2)(E). The *Standards* are designed to promote consistency in the imposition of sanctions by identifying relevant factors that courts should consider and then applying those factors to situations where lawyers have engaged in various types of misconduct. *Standards* 1.3, Commentary. The *Standards* provide guidance with respect to an appropriate sanction in this matter. *In re Peasley*, 208 Ariz. 27, 33, 35, 90 P.3d 764, 770 (2004); *In re Rivkind*, 162 Ariz. 154, 157, 791 P.2d 1037, 1040 (1990).

In determining an appropriate sanction consideration is given to the duty violated, the lawyer's mental state, the actual or potential injury caused by the misconduct and the existence of aggravating and mitigating factors. *Peasley*, 208 Ariz. at 35, 90 P.3d at 772; *Standard* 3.0.

The parties agree that *Standards* 4.33 and 6.34 are the appropriate *Standards* given the facts and circumstances of this matter. *Standard* 4.33 provides that a Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer is negligent in determining whether the representation of a client may be materially affected by the lawyer's own interests, or whether the representation will adversely affect another client, and

causes injury or potential injury to a client. Standard 6.34 provides that an Admonition is appropriate when a lawyer engages in an isolated instance of negligence in improperly communicating with an individual in the legal system, and causes little or no actual or potential injury to a party, or causes little or no actual or potential interference with the outcome of the legal proceeding.

# The duty violated

As described above, Respondent's conduct violated his duties to the Scottsdale and Tempe entities by failing to comply with ER 1.8(a) while providing legal services to, and taking steps to acquire an equity interest in, those entities and violated his duties to the legal system by directly contacting a represented person.

# The lawyer's mental state

For purposes of this agreement the parties agree that Respondent negligently failed to comply with ER 1.8(a), and negligently failed to abide by ER 4.2. Respondent acknowledges that his conduct was in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

### The extent of the actual or potential injury

For purposes of this agreement, the parties agree that there was potential for harm to a client or the legal system.

# Aggravating and mitigating circumstances

The parties agree that the presumptive sanction in this matter is Reprimand.

The parties conditionally agree that the following aggravating and mitigating factors should be considered.

# In aggravation:

Standard 9.22(e): Bad faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with rules or orders of the disciplinary agency. Specifically, Respondent failed for a period of months to respond to the Bar's investigation.

# In mitigation:

Standard 9.32(a): Absence of a prior disciplinary record

Standard 9.32(b): Inexperience in the practice of law.

#### Discussion

The parties have conditionally agreed that a greater or lesser sanction would not be appropriate under the facts and circumstances of this matter. This agreement was based on Respondent's failure to comply with ER 1.8 while providing legal service to, and taking steps to acquire an equity interest in, the Scottsdale and Tempe entities,, his failure to comply with ER 4.2, by directly contacting Complainant after Complainant had retained counsel, and his violation of Rule 54(d)(2), by failing to timely respond to the Bar's investigation.

Based on the *Standards* and in light of the facts and circumstances of this matter, the parties conditionally agree that the sanction set forth above is within the range of appropriate sanction and will serve the purposes of lawyer discipline.

## CONCLUSION

The object of lawyer discipline is not to punish the lawyer, but to protect the public, the profession and the administration of justice. *Peasley, supra* at ¶ 64, 90 P.3d at 778. Recognizing that determination of the appropriate sanction is the prerogative of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, the State Bar and Respondent

believe that the objectives of discipline will be met by the imposition of the proposed sanction of a Reprimand, probation, and the imposition of costs and expenses. A proposed form order is attached hereto as Exhibit "C."

**DATED** this  $\frac{10^{19}}{10^{19}}$  day of October, 2014.

State Bar of Arizona

Hunter F. Perimeter Staff Bar Counsel

This agreement, with conditional admissions, is submitted freely and voluntarily and not under coercion or intimidation.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2014.

William G. Was III Respondent

DATED this 10 th day of October, 2014.

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr Respondent's Counsel

Approved as to form and content

Maret Vessella Chief Bar Counsel believe that the objectives of discipline will be met by the imposition of the proposed sanction of a Reprimand, probation, and the imposition of costs and expenses. A proposed form order is attached hereto as Exhibit "C."

proposed form order is attached he	reto as Exhibit "C."
DATED this day of O	ctober, 2014.
	State Bar of Arizona
	Hunter F. Perimeter Staff Bar Counsel
This agreement, with con voluntarily and not under coerci	ditional admissions, is submitted freely and on or intimidation.
DATED this day of O	ctober, 2014.
	/M/ 12 ===
	William G. Was III Respondent
DATED this day of O	ctober, 2014.
	Geoffrey M. T. Sturr Respondent's Counsel
Approved as to form and content	
Maret Vessella Chief Bar Counsel	

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

Copies of the foregoing mailed/<u>emailed</u> this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2014, to:

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr
Osborn Maledon PA
2929 North Central Avenue,
Suite 2100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765
Email: gsturr@omlaw.com
Respondent's Counsel

Copy of the foregoing <u>emailed</u> this <u>who</u> day of October, 2014, to:

William J. O'Neil
Presiding Disciplinary Judge
Supreme Court of Arizona
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Email: officepdj@courts.az.gov

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2014, to:

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

by:

# **EXHIBIT "A"**

September 3, 2014

Hunter Perimeter State Bar of Arizona 4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100 Phoenix Arizona 85016

RE: File No. 13-3034

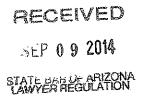
Dear Mr. Perimeter:

Thank you very much for your correspondence and the Bar's work on this matter. However, I hope that you appreciate that it is difficult for me to evaluate the consent agreement without reviewing it. Therefore, I do object to the consent agreement entered into between the State Bar of Arizona and William G. Was as delineated in your letter to me dated August 29, 2014.

I would like a copy of the consent agreement in order to fully evaluate the admissions, findings of fact, conclusions of law and agreed upon terms. I am unable to ascertain the reasoning behind the State Bar entering into a consent with Mr. Was without receiving a copy of the consent. Consequently, I am unable to determine the appropriateness for the decision. I therefore object to the consent. Furthermore, I would like to review a copy of the consent, and thereafter have time to acquiesce or object to the proposed resolution.

Thank you,

Mike Alexander



# **EXHIBIT "B"**

# **Statement of Costs and Expenses**

In the Matter of a Current Member of the State Bar of Arizona, William G Was III, Bar No. 025909, Respondent

File No. 13-3034

# **Administrative Expenses**

The Supreme Court of Arizona has adopted a schedule of administrative expenses to be assessed in lawyer discipline. If the number of charges/complainants exceeds five, the assessment for the general administrative expenses shall increase by 20% for each additional charge/complainant where a violation is admitted or proven.

Factors considered in the administrative expense are time expended by staff bar counsel, paralegal, secretaries, typists, file clerks and messenger; and normal postage charges, telephone costs, office supplies and all similar factors generally attributed to office overhead. As a matter of course, administrative costs will increase based on the length of time it takes a matter to proceed through the adjudication process.

# General Administrative Expenses for above-numbered proceedings

\$1,200.00

Additional costs incurred by the State Bar of Arizona in the processing of this disciplinary matter, and not included in administrative expenses, are itemized below.

# Staff Investigator/Miscellaneous Charges

Total for staff investigator charges

0.00

TOTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED

\$ 1,200.00

Sandra E. Montoya

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager

Date

# 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	MA"	<b>ITER</b>	OF	A MEMBER	OF
TH	E ST	ATE	<b>BAR</b>	OF	ARIZONA,	

William G. Was III, Bar No. 025909,

Res	po	nd	ent	
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#### FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER

State Bar No. 13-3034

The undersigned Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona, having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on October \_\_\_\_, 2014, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., hereby accepts the parties' proposed agreement. Accordingly:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent, William G. Was III, is hereby Reprimanded and placed on one (1) year probation for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents, effective thirty (30) days from the date of this order or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as a term of that probation, Respondent shall complete the following CLE programs: "Fee Agreements, Privileges and the 'No Contact' Rule" (3 hours) and "CLE Snippet: ER 1.8. Conflict of Interest: Current Clients: Specific Rules" (.25 hours). Probation may terminate early upon proof of completion of the listed CLE's and upon Respondent providing hand-written notes regarding the CLE's to Bar Counsel.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent pay the costs and expenses of
the State Bar of Arizona in the amount of \$, within thirty (30) days
from the date of service of this Order.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall pay the costs and
expenses incurred by the disciplinary clerk and/or Presiding Disciplinary Judge's
Office in connection with these disciplinary proceedings in the amount of
, within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order.
DATED this day of October, 2014.
William J. O'Neil, 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 October, 2014.
Copies of the foregoing mailed/ <u>emailed</u> this day of October, 2014, to:

Geoffrey M. T. Sturr
Osborn Maledon PA
2929 North Central Avenue,
Suite 2100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2765
Email: gsturr@omlaw.com
Respondent's Counsel

Hunter F. Perlmet Staff Bar Counsel	er			
State Bar of Arizo 4201 North 24 <sup>th</sup> S			·	
Phoenix, Arizona (	•			
Email: <u>LRO@staff</u>	azbar.org			
	oing hand-delivered October, 2014, to:			
,	Records Manager			
State Bar of Arizo 4201 North 24 <sup>th</sup> S				
Phoenix, Arizona (	•			
by:				
		•		