

BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE

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

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN,
Bar No. 022708

Respondent.

PDJ-2017-9099

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND
ORDER OF SUSPENSION**

[State Bar Nos. 16-1644, 17-0190
17-0275, 17-0286, 17-0354, 17-
0629, 17-0743, 17-0935, 17-1031]

FILED NOVEMBER 17, 2017

The decision of the hearing panel was filed with the disciplinary clerk on October 26, 2017. The time for appeal has passed and no appeal has been filed.

Now therefore,

IT IS ORDERED Respondent, **TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN, Bar No. 022708**, is suspended from the practice of law for two (2) years effective October 26, 2017.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Mr. Steadman shall immediately comply with the requirements relating to notification of clients and others, and provide and/or file all notices and affidavits required by Rule 72, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Mr. Steadman shall pay restitution in the following amounts, plus interest at the statutory rate to the following individuals:

Count 1: \$7,000.00 to Cynthia Clark;
Count 2: \$1,200.00 to Ed Alexander;
Count 3: \$2,500.00 to Donnie Holtz;
Count 4: \$1,845.00 to Karin Kelley;
Count 6: \$1,835.00 to Jennifer Martinez;
Count 7: \$3,000.00 to Maridell Gilmore;
Count 8: \$1,750.00 to Julie Arvidson; and
Count 9: \$168.00 to Christine Button

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Mr. Steadman shall pay the State Bar's costs and Expenses in the amount of \$3,600.00 as ordered by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge. There are no costs or expenses incurred by the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge.

DATED this 17th day of November, 2017.

William J. O'Neil

William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

COPY of the foregoing e-mailed/mailed
this 17th day of November, 2017 to:

Timothy W. Steadman
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Email: tim@steadmanlawfirm.net
Respondent

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by: AMcQueen

BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE

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

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN,
Bar No. 022708

Respondent.

PDJ 2017-9099

**DECISION AND ORDER
IMPOSING SANCTIONS**

[State Bar Nos. 16-1644, 17-0190, 17-0275, 17-0286, 17-0354, 17-0629, 17-0743, 17-0935, 17-1031]

FILED OCTOBER 26, 2017

On October 24, 2017, this matter proceeded before the Hearing Panel, composed of attorney member Stanley R. Lerner, and volunteer public member Carole Kemps, and the Presiding Disciplinary Judge William J. O’Neil. Craig D. Henley appeared on behalf of the State Bar. Mr. Steadman did not appear. Exhibits 1-43 were admitted. At the conclusion of the hearing, the State Bar requested a long terms suspension of at least one (1) year and restitution.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The State Bar of Arizona (“SBA”) filed its complaint on August 4, 2017. On August 8, 2017, the complaint was served on Mr. Steadman by certified, delivery restricted mail, as well as by regular first class mail, pursuant to Rules 47(c) and 58(a) (2), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge (“PDJ”) was assigned to the matter. A notice of default was properly issued on September 6, 2017, given

Mr. Steadman's failure to file an answer or otherwise defend. Mr. Steadman did not file an answer or otherwise defend against the complainant's allegations and default was properly entered on September 26, 2017, at which time a notice of aggravation and mitigation hearing was sent to all parties notifying them the aggravation mitigating hearing was scheduled for October 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., at the State Courts Building, 1501 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3231.

On October 24, 2017, the Hearing Panel heard argument and considered evidence. The purpose of an aggravation/mitigation hearing is not only to weigh mitigating and aggravating factors, but also to assure there is a nexus between a respondent's conduct deemed admitted and the merits of the State Bar's case. A respondent against whom a default has been entered no may longer litigate the merits of the factual allegations. Mr. Steadman was afforded these rights but did not appear.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

The facts listed below are those set forth in the SBA's complaint and were deemed admitted by Mr. Steadman's default. Due process requires however requires a hearing panel to independently determine whether the ethical violations have been proven by clear and convincing evidence. A hearing panel must also exercise its discretion in deciding the appropriate sanction. If the hearing panel determines that sanctions are warranted, then it independently determines which sanctions should be

imposed. It is not the function panel to endorse or “rubber stamp” any request for sanctions.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

1. At all times relevant, Mr. Steadman was licensed to practice law in the State of Arizona having been first admitted on December 16, 2003.

2. On December 23, 2015, Mr. Steadman was suspended from the practice of law for sixty days in *In re: Steadman*, PDJ 2015-9086, effective February 1, 2016.

3. On January 11, 2017, Mr. Steadman was suspended from the practice of law for ninety days in *In re: Steadman*, PDJ 2016-9081, effective immediately.

COUNT ONE (File No. 16-1644/Clark)/Exhibits 1-4

4. On October 11, 2013, Cynthia Clark (“Clark”) hired Mr. Steadman to file the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Clark v. Clark*, FN2013-090585. Clark paid Mr. Steadman \$7000.00 for the representation.

5. Clark received the divorce decree on September 11, 2014 including an indefinite award of \$500.00 in monthly spousal maintenance.

6. While Clark complains that Mr. Steadman failed to respond to many phone calls and e-mails throughout the representation, she nevertheless allowed Mr. Steadman to handle certain post-decree legal services *pro bono* in 2015.

7. On February 1, 2016, Mr. Steadman filed a Notice of Association with Arizona attorney Bradley Crider and began serving a 60 day suspension in PDJ 2015-9086.

8. That same day, Crider filed a Stipulation to continue a previously scheduled February 8, 2016 evidentiary hearing. The Court granted the motion and continued the hearing until May 2, 2016.

9. On May 2, 2016, while neither Mr. Steadman nor Crider appeared, the opposing party and his counsel did. The Court dismissed Mr. Steadman's post-decree motion noting, in pertinent part, that "this division has not been contacted with good cause as to Petitioner's and her counsel's failure to appear."

10. On July 25, 2016, Mr. Steadman filed a Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance and Enforce Decree alleging, among other things, that a change in Clark's circumstances necessitated an increase in the monthly spousal maintenance amount previously awarded.

11. On October 3, 2016, the Court placed the Petition to Modify on the Inactive Calendar for dismissal on December 30, 2016 due to Mr. Steadman's difficulty in effectuating service upon the opposing party. The minute entry set forth the documents necessary to avoid dismissal.

12. On January 1, 2017, Mr. Steadman filed a Notice of Withdrawal without Clark's knowledge.

13. On January 9, 2017, the Court dismissed the Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance stating, in pertinent part, “[p]ursuant to the Minute Entry dated October 3, 2016, and nothing having been filed, **IT IS ORDERED** dismissing the Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance and To Enforce Decree of Dissolution of Marriage filed July 25, 2016.” (Emphasis in original)

14. On January 11, 2017, Mr. Steadman was suspended from the practice of law for ninety days, effective immediately.

15. Despite Clark’s requests for a full accounting of the originally paid fees and the return of her file, Mr. Steadman failed to provide either.

16. On February 15, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney contacted Mr. Steadman who claimed that he would mail the file to Clark that week.

17. On February 22, 2017, Clark called the State Bar to inform them that she still had not heard from Mr. Steadman or received her file.

18. On April 13, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

19. On April 21, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

20. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Clark's allegations.

21. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.

b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.

c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.

d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.

e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.

f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.

g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

22. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or

respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

23. As any legal services were without value, Clark is entitled to an order of restitution of \$7000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT TWO (File No. 17-0190/Alexander)/Exhibits 5-8

24. In or around November 2016, Ed Alexander (“Alexander”) paid Mr. Steadman \$1200.00 to represent him in a bankruptcy case. [Ex. 41 & 42]

25. While Mr. Steadman filed the initial bankruptcy paperwork, the Court notified Mr. Steadman of certain failures of the initial filing.

26. When Alexander confronted about the Bankruptcy Court notification, Mr. Steadman indicated that he was supplementing the original filing and paying the necessary fees.

27. When Mr. Steadman failed to do so, the Bankruptcy case was dismissed.

28. Despite repeated requests, Mr. Steadman has failed to contact Alexander regarding the case.

29. On April 3, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are

grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

30. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

31. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Alexander's allegations.

32. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

33. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

34. As any legal services were without value, Alexander is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1200.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT THREE (File No. 17-0275/Holtz)/Exhibits 9-14

35. On or about August 25, 2016, Donnie Holtz (“Holtz”) paid Mr. Steadman \$2500.00 to represent him in the Pinal County Superior Court case of *Holtz v. Holtz*, DO2016-01484.

36. After providing Holtz with a receipt for \$283.00 in paid court fees, Mr. Steadman failed to respond to Holtz’s phone calls or e-mails.

37. On February 7, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney attempted to contact Mr. Steadman by e-mail.

38. On February 8, 2017, Mr. Steadman responded indicating that he was returning from out of town and would call A/CAP on February 9th.

39. On February 10, 2017, A/CAP again requested that Mr. Steadman contact the State Bar.

40. Later that day, Mr. Steadman e-mailed A/CAP indicating that he was still out of town but would call A/CAP the following Monday.

41. On February 14, 2017, A/CAP again requested that Mr. Steadman contact the State Bar.

42. On February 15, 2017, Mr. Steadman and A/CAP discussed the Holtz representation and Mr. Steadman agreed to provide Holtz with his file and a complete accounting.

43. On February 21, 2017, Holtz called the State Bar to inform them that he still had not heard from Mr. Steadman or received her file.

44. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

45. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

46. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Holtz's allegations.

47. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.

b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.

c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.

d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.

e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.

f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.

g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

48. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

49. As any legal services were without value, Holtz is entitled to an order of restitution of \$2500.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT FOUR (File No. 17-0286/Kelley)/Exhibits 15-18

50. In or around August–September 2015, Karin and Edmond Kelley (“Kelley”) paid Mr. Steadman \$1845.00 to represent her in an adoption matter.

51. Despite repeated requests between September 2015 and April 2016, Mr. Steadman failed to respond to Kelley’s phone calls and e-mails regarding the case.

52. On April 21, 2016, Mr. Steadman responded to an e-mail from Kelley.

53. Between April 21, 2016 and December 29, 2016, Mr. Steadman failed to respond to Kelley’s phone calls and e-mails regarding the case.

54. On December 29, 2016, Kelley e-mailed Mr. Steadman and requesting a refund and the file.

55. On December 30, 2016, Mr. Steadman claimed that the “guy at the Judge’s office is giving (them) the run around.” This was the last time that Kelley heard from Mr. Steadman.

56. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are

grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

57. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

58. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Kelley's allegations.

59. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

60. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

61. As any legal services were without value, Kelley is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1845.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT FIVE (File No. 17-0354/Blackmore)/Exhibits 19-21

62. On November 23, 2015, Mr. Steadman filed a Petition to Establish Nonparent Legal Decision Making and Placement on behalf of Hannah Blackmore (“Blackmore”) in the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Hardt v. Sanders (Blackmore as Intervenor)*, FC2008-001952 (hereinafter referred to as “First Lawsuit”).

63. On January 31, 2016, Mr. Steadman filed a Notice/Application of Withdrawal in the Maricopa County Superior Court cases of *Blackmore v. Sanders*, FC2015-095341 (hereinafter referred to as “Second Lawsuit”) based upon his suspension from the practice of law in PDJ 2015-9086, effective February 1, 2016. The Court granted the motion on February 23, 2016.

64. On February 18, 2016, Arizona attorney Donna Hougen filed a Notice of Substitution of Counsel in the Second Lawsuit.

65. Mr. Steadman did not file a Notice of Withdrawal or other similar pleading in the First Lawsuit, but Arizona attorney Donna Hougen filed a Notice of Substitution of Counsel on March 8, 2016.

66. On May 6, 2016, the opposing party filed a response to the First Lawsuit through counsel.

67. On or about July 11, 2016, Blackmore and Mr. Steadman entered into an agreement that Mr. Steadman would represent Blackmore in both lawsuits *pro bono*.

68. On July 21, 2016, Mr. Steadman filed a Notice of Substitution in both lawsuits.

69. On July 21, 2016, Mr. Steadman filed a Motion for Reconsideration in the Second Lawsuit.

70. On August 3, 2016, the Court denied the Motion for Reconsideration in the Second Lawsuit.

71. On August 25, 2016, the Court held a Resolution Management Conference on the petition in the First Lawsuit and placed the case on the inactive calendar for “automatic dismissal on **October 7, 2016** unless prior to that date, Intervenor request further action to be taken.” (Emphasis in original).

72. Between September and October 2016, Mr. Steadman failed to return Blackmore's e-mails and phone calls requesting updates on the case.

73. On October 16, 2016, the parties filed a stipulation to all issues in the Second Lawsuit.

74. On October 21, 2016, the parties met in order to discuss Mr. Steadman's failure to communicate during the representations. The parties also agreed that Mr. Steadman would file the paperwork necessary to continue pursuit of relief in the First Lawsuit.

75. Between October 21, 2016 and December 30, 2016, Mr. Steadman failed to return Blackmore's e-mails and phone calls requesting updates on the case.

76. On December 30, 2016, Mr. Steadman responded to one of Blackmore's e-mails dated December 16th indicating that he was suspended again and would leave the client files at the front desk of his office.

77. On December 30, 2016, Mr. Steadman also filed a Notice of Withdrawal in the First Lawsuit.

78. On April 25, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are

grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

79. On April 28, 2017, the Court dismissed the petition in the First Lawsuit for lack of prosecution citing the August 25th minute entry's "automatic dismissal on October 7, 2016".

80. On May 2, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

81. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Blackmore's allegations.

82. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- e. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- f. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

g. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

83. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

COUNT SIX (File No. 17-0629/Martinez)/Exhibits 22-23

84. In or around 2014, Jennifer Martinez (“Martinez”) discussed Mr. Steadman possibly representing Martinez in a bankruptcy case.

85. Mr. Steadman explained that Martinez should wait to file in 2015, so that they could include three specific years of tax liability (3 years old and older) as well as one particular bill of \$11,500.00.

86. In 2015, Martinez paid Mr. Steadman \$1,835.00 for the bankruptcy representation.

87. While Mr. Steadman filed the initial paperwork with the Bankruptcy Court, Mr. Steadman “filed too early” to include the \$11,500.00 debt and failed to complete the representation.

88. Despite repeated requests by Martinez and a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney, Mr. Steadman has failed to contact Martinez regarding the case.

89. On April 25, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

90. On May 2, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

91. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Martinez's allegations.

92. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- e. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.

f. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

g. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

93. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

94. As any legal services were without value, Martinez is entitled to an order of restitution of \$2000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT SEVEN (File No. 17-0743/Gilmore)/Exhibits 24-32

95. On or about June 23, 2016, Maridell Gilmore (“Gilmore”) paid Mr. Steadman \$3000.00 to represent him in the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Gilmore v. McDonough*, FC2016-005896.

96. On June 28, 2016, Mr. Steadman contemporaneously filed a Notice of Appearance and responsive pleading to a previously filed petition as well as a Petition to Modify Child Support.

97. On November 30, 2016, the Court held a telephonic status conference attended by Mr. Steadman and opposing counsel and his client.

98. At that hearing, the Court scheduled a telephonic status conference on February 28, 2017 at 10:00 am. The Court further ordered that “all parties and

counsel are required to participate in the Telephonic Status Conference and that counsel cannot waive a party's appearance without prior order of the Court.”

99. Mr. Steadman failed to inform Gilmore of the February 28, 2017 telephonic status conference.

100. On January 1, 2017, Mr. Steadman filed a Notice of Withdrawal based upon his upcoming ninety day suspension from the practice of law in PDJ 2016-9081, effective January 11, 2017.

101. On February 28, 2017, the Court called the case at 10:14 am. Neither Mr. Steadman nor his client were present or contacted the court regarding their nonappearance. The Court ordered that Gilmore “shall advise the Court in writing as to the reason for her absence at today’s hearing. Mother’s failure to submit said document shall result in the issuance of a Civil Arrest Warrant.”

102. On March 9, 2017, Gilmore filed a written document explaining that “I was unaware my presence was required as my attorney, Timothy Steadman, hadn’t notified me. I was also unaware he had withdrawn from counsel and soon to follow, suspended from practicing law since early January. He failed to contact me via all routes being email, mail, and phone. All of which have been current. Our communication was minimal and only when I assumed necessary. He assured me in the past that minute entries/status conferences didn’t require my attendace (sic) unless otherwise notified. I recently discovered that there were court documents

from previous status conferences, including the initial proceeding, that I wasn't given copies of or were notified of even occurring.”

103. On March 9, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney e-mailed Mr. Steadman requesting the Gilmore's file and a complete accounting.

104. On April 13, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

105. On April 21, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

106. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Gilmore's allegations.

107. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.

- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

108. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

109. As any legal services were without value, Gilmore is entitled to an order of restitution of \$3000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT EIGHT (File No. 17-0935/Arvidson)/Exhibits 33-34

110. In or around August 2015, Julie Arvidson (“Arvidson”) paid Mr. Steadman \$1750.00 to represent her in a bankruptcy case.

111. On or about January 19, 2016, Mr. Steadman e-mailed Arvidson and indicated that he had received everything that he needed to file the initial bankruptcy

paperwork, but that he had “a pretty full morning so I won’t be able to get everything ready today to sign but let me see what I can do for tomorrow.”

112. Arvidson’s last contact with Mr. Steadman was on March 8, 2016, but they were unable to ascertain the status of the filing.

113. Despite repeated requests, Mr. Steadman has failed to contact Arvidson regarding the case since March 8, 2016.

114. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

115. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

116. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Arvidson’s allegations.

117. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client’s decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

118. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

119. As any legal services were without value, Arvidson is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1750.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT NINE (File No. 17-1031/Button)/Exhibits 35-36

120. In or around November 2014, Christine Button (“Button”) paid Mr. Steadman \$168.00, to finalize his mother’s estate and probate.

121. In December 2016, the Court sent Button notification to close the estate.

122. Despite repeated requests, Mr. Steadman has failed to contact Button regarding the case.

123. Button hired Arizona attorney Gary Larson to investigate the status of the Notice to Creditors publication and the case.

124. Despite repeated efforts, Larson could not contact Mr. Steadman or locate the publication. Shortly thereafter, Button hired Larson to prepare and publish a Notice to Creditors and close the estate.

125. On April 6, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

126. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Mr. Steadman a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Mr. Steadman that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

127. To date, Mr. Steadman has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Button's allegations.

128. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to abide to his client’s decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Mr. Steadman failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Mr. Steadman failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Mr. Steadman charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Mr. Steadman failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Mr. Steadman failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Mr. Steadman knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Mr. Steadman engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

129. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Mr. Steadman violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

130. As any legal services were without value, Button is entitled to an order of restitution of \$168.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Mr. Steadman failed to file an answer or otherwise defend against the allegations in the SBA's complaint. Default was properly entered and the allegations are therefore deemed admitted pursuant to Rule 58(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. Based upon the facts deemed admitted, the Hearing Panel finds by clear and convincing evidence that Mr. Steadman violated each of the Rules of the Supreme Court as set forth above.

ABA STANDARDS ANALYSIS

The American Bar Association's *Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions* ("*Standards*") are a "useful tool in determining the proper sanction." *In re Cardenas*, 164 Ariz. 149, 152, 791 P.2d 1032, 1035 (1990). In imposing a sanction, the following factors should consider: (1) the duty violated; (2) the lawyer's mental state; (3) the actual or potential injury caused by the lawyer's misconduct; and (4) the existence of aggravating or mitigating factors. *Standard 3.0*.

Duties violated:

Mr. Steadman engaged in a pattern of negligently violating his duty to his clients as set forth in Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ERs 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 1.16(d). Mr. Steadman also engaged in a pattern of negligently violating his duty to the legal system as set forth in Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ERs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3(a), 3.4(c), and 4.1. Mr. Steadman engaged in a pattern of negligently violating his duty owed as a

professional as set forth in Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ERs 8.1(b) and 8.4(d), as well as Rule 54(c) and (d)(1) and (2).

Mental State and Injury:

Mr. Steadman negligently violated his duty to clients, thereby implicating *Standard 4.4*.

Standard 4.42 states, in pertinent part:

Suspension is generally appropriate when:

- (a) a lawyer knowingly fails to perform services for a client and causes injury or potential injury to a client; or
- (b) a lawyer engages in a pattern of neglect and causes injury or potential injury to a client.

Mr. Steadman abandoned the practice, failed to perform services for clients and engaged in a pattern of neglect of the above-referenced client matters, all which caused serious or potentially serious injury to clients. Therefore, *Standard 4.42* is applicable.

Mr. Steadman also violated his duty owed to the legal system as a professional, which implicates *Standard 7.0*.

Standard 7.2 states, in pertinent part:

Suspension is generally appropriate when a lawyer knowingly engages in conduct that is a violation of a duty owed as a professional, and causes injury or potential injury to a client, the public, or the legal system.

Mr. Steadman has abandoned his practice and failed to respond to the SBA's investigation. Therefore, *Standard 7.2* is applicable.

AGGRAVATING AND MITIGATING FACTORS

The Hearing Panel finds the following aggravating factors are present in this matter:

In aggravation:

- A. *Standard 9.22(a)* prior disciplinary offenses in Exhibits 37-40:
- PDJ 2016-9081 (2017): Mr. Steadman was suspended for 90 days and placed on two years of probation for violations of Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 1.2, ER 1.3, ER 1.4, ER 1.16(d), ER 3.2, ER 5.5 and ER 8.4(d).
 - PDJ 2015-9086 (2015): Mr. Steadman was suspended for 60 days and placed on two years of probation for violations of Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 1.1, ER 1.2, ER 1.3, ER 1.4, ER 1.5, ER 1.15, ER 1.16(d), ER 3.2 and ER 8.4(d).
 - SB File No. 13-0210 (2014): Mr. Steadman was admonished and placed on probation for violation of ER 1.2(a), ER 1.3, ER 1.4(a) & (b), and ER 8.4(d).
 - SB File No. 12-0384 (2013): Mr. Steadman was admonished and placed on probation for violation of ER 1.3, ER 1.4, ER 1.15(d), ER 1.16(d), and ER 8.4(d).
- B. *Standard 9.22(c)* pattern of misconduct; and
- C. *Standard 9.22(d)* multiple offenses.

The Hearing Panel finds no mitigating factors are present in the record. The Hearing Panel finds that suspension is the presumptive sanction and a one year suspension is an appropriate sanction.

CONCLUSION

The Supreme Court “has long held that ‘the objective of disciplinary proceedings is to protect the public, the profession and the administration of justice and not to punish the offender.’” *Alcorn*, 202 Ariz. at 74, 41 P.3d at 612 (2002) (quoting *In re Kastensmith*, 101 Ariz. 291, 294, 419 P.2d 75, 78 (1966)). It is also the purpose of lawyer discipline to deter future misconduct. *In re Fioramonti*, 176 Ariz. 182, 859 P.2d 1315 (1993). It is also a goal of lawyer regulation to protect and instill public confidence in the integrity of individual members of the SBA. *Matter of Horwitz*, 180 Ariz. 20, 881 P.2d 352 (1994).

The Hearing Panel made the above findings of fact and conclusions of law and determined the appropriate sanction using the facts deemed admitted, an independent review, application of the *Standards*, the aggravating factors and the goals of the attorney discipline system.

Based upon the above, the Hearing Panel orders as follows:

1. Mr. Steadman shall be suspended from the practice of law for two (2) years effective immediately;
2. Mr. Steadman shall pay all costs and expenses incurred by the SBA and the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in this proceeding;
3. Mr. Steadman shall pay the following in restitution as follows:
 - a. Count 1: Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7000.00) to Cynthia Clark;

- b. Count 2: One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) to Ed Alexander;
- c. Count 3: Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) to Donnie Holtz;
- d. Count 4: One Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$1,845.00) to Karin Kelley;
- e. Count 6: One Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$1,835.00) to Jennifer Martinez;
- f. Count 7: Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) to Maridell Gilmore;
- g. Count 8: One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,750.00) to Julie Arvidson; and
- h. Count 9: One Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$168.00) to Christine Button;

A final judgment and order will follow.

DATED this 26th day of October 2017.

William J. O'Neil
William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

Carole Kemps
Carole Kemps, Volunteer Public Member

Stanley R. Lerner
Stanley R. Lerner, Volunteer Attorney Member

Copy of the foregoing mailed/mailed
this 26th day of October, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
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Email: tim@steadmanlawfirm.net
Respondent

Craig D. Henley
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by: AMcQueen

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BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE

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

**TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN,
Bar No. 022708,**

Respondent.

PDJ 2017-_____

COMPLAINT

[State Bar No. 16-1644, 17-0190, 17-0275, 17-0286, 17-0354, 17-0629, 17-0743, 17-0935, 17-1031]

Complaint is made against Respondent as follows:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

1. At all times relevant, Respondent was licensed to practice law in the State of Arizona having been first admitted on December 16, 2003.

2. On December 23, 2015, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for sixty days in *In re: Steadman*, PDJ 2015-9086, effective February 1, 2016.

3. On January 11, 2017, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for ninety days in *In re: Steadman*, PDJ 2016-9081, effective immediately.

COUNT ONE (File No. 16-1644/Clark)

4. On October 11, 2013, Cynthia Clark (“Clark”) hired Respondent to file the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Clark v. Clark*, FN2013-090585. Clark paid Respondent \$7000.00 for the representation.

5. Clark received the divorce decree on September 11, 2014 including an indefinite award of \$500.00 in monthly spousal maintenance.

6. While Clark complains that Respondent failed to respond to many phone calls and e-mails throughout the representation, she nevertheless allowed Respondent to handle certain post-decree legal services *pro bono* in 2015.

7. On February 1, 2016, Respondent filed a Notice of Association with Arizona attorney Bradley Crider and began serving a 60 day suspension in PDJ 2015-9086.

8. That same day, Crider filed a Stipulation to continue a previously scheduled February 8, 2016 evidentiary hearing. The Court granted the motion and continued the hearing until May 2, 2016.

9. On May 2, 2016, while neither Respondent nor Crider appeared, the opposing party and his counsel did. The Court dismissed Respondent's post-decree motion noting, in pertinent part, that "this division has not been contacted with good cause as to Petitioner's and her counsel's failure to appear."

10. On July 25, 2016, Respondent filed a Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance and Enforce Decree alleging, among other things, that a change in Clark's circumstances necessitated an increase in the monthly spousal maintenance amount previously awarded.

11. On October 3, 2016, the Court placed the Petition to Modify on the Inactive Calendar for dismissal on December 30, 2016 due to Respondent's difficulty in effectuating service upon the opposing party. The minute entry set forth the documents necessary to avoid dismissal.

12. On January 1, 2017, Respondent filed a Notice of Withdrawal without Clark's knowledge.

13. On January 9, 2017, the Court dismissed the Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance stating, in pertinent part, “[p]ursuant to the Minute Entry dated October 3, 2016, and nothing having been filed, **IT IS ORDERED** dismissing the Petition to Modify Spousal Maintenance and To Enforce Decree of Dissolution of Marriage filed July 25, 2016.” (Emphasis in original)

14. On January 11, 2017, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for ninety days, effective immediately.

15. Despite Clark’s requests for a full accounting of the originally paid fees and the return of her file, Respondent failed to provide either.

16. On February 15, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney contacted Respondent who claimed that he would mail the file to Clark that week.

17. On February 22, 2017, Clark called the State Bar to inform them that she still had not heard from Respondent or received her file.

18. On April 13, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are

grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

19. On April 21, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

20. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Clark's allegations.

21. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.

g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

22. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

23. As any legal services were without value, Clark is entitled to an order of restitution of \$7000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT TWO (File No. 17-0190/Alexander)

24. In or around November 2016, Ed Alexander (“Alexander”) paid Respondent \$1200.00 to represent him in a bankruptcy case.

25. While Respondent filed the initial bankruptcy paperwork, the Court notified Respondent of certain failures of the initial filing.

26. When Alexander confronted about the Bankruptcy Court notification, Respondent indicated that he was supplementing the original filing and paying the necessary fees.

27. When Respondent failed to do so, the Bankruptcy case was dismissed.

28. Despite repeated requests, Respondent has failed to contact Alexander regarding the case.

29. On April 3, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

30. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

31. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Alexander's allegations.

32. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client’s decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

33. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

34. As any legal services were without value, Alexander is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1200.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT THREE (File No. 17-0275/Holtz)

35. On or about August 25, 2016, Donnie Holtz (“Holtz”) paid Respondent \$2500.00 to represent him in the Pinal County Superior Court case of *Holtz v. Holtz*, DO2016-01484.

36. After providing Holtz with a receipt for \$283.00 in paid court fees, Respondent failed to respond to Holtz’s phone calls or e-mails.

37. On February 7, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney attempted to contact Respondent by e-mail.

38. On February 8, 2017, Respondent responded indicating that he was returning from out of town and would call A/CAP on February 9th.

39. On February 10, 2017, A/CAP again requested that Respondent contact the State Bar.

40. Later that day, Respondent e-mailed A/CAP indicating that he was still out of town but would call A/CAP the following Monday.

41. On February 14, 2017, A/CAP again requested that Respondent contact the State Bar.

42. On February 15, 2017, Respondent and A/CAP discussed the Holtz representation and Respondent agreed to provide Holtz with his file and a complete accounting.

43. On February 21, 2017, Holtz called the State Bar to inform them that he still had not heard from Respondent or received her file.

44. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

45. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

46. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Holtz's allegations.

47. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client’s decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

48. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

49. As any legal services were without value, Holtz is entitled to an order of restitution of \$2500.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT FOUR (File No. 17-0286/Kelley)

50. In or around August–September 2015, Karin and Edmond Kelley (“Kelley”) paid Respondent \$1845.00 to represent her in an adoption matter.

51. Despite repeated requests between September 2015 and April 2016, Respondent failed to respond to Kelley’s phone calls and e-mails regarding the case.

52. On April 21, 2016, Respondent responded to an e-mail from Kelley.

53. Between April 21, 2016 and December 29, 2016, Respondent failed to respond to Kelley’s phone calls and e-mails regarding the case.

54. On December 29, 2016, Kelley e-mailed Respondent and requesting a refund and the file.

55. On December 30, 2016, Respondent claimed that the “guy at the Judge’s office is giving (them) the run around.” This was the last time that Kelley heard from Respondent.

56. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

57. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

58. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Kelley's allegations.

59. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.

b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.

- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

60. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

61. As any legal services were without value, Kelley is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1845.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT FIVE (File No. 17-0354/Blackmore)

62. On November 23, 2015, Respondent filed a Petition to Establish Nonparent Legal Decision Making and Placement on behalf of Hannah Blackmore (“Blackmore”) in the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Hardt v. Sanders (Blackmore as Intervenor)*, FC2008-001952 (hereinafter referred to as “First Lawsuit”).

63. On January 31, 2016, Respondent filed a Notice/Application of Withdrawal in the Maricopa County Superior Court cases of *Blackmore v. Sanders*, FC2015-095341 (hereinafter referred to as “Second Lawsuit”) based upon his suspension from the practice of law in PDJ 2015-9086, effective February 1, 2016. The Court granted the motion on February 23, 2016.

64. On February 18, 2016, Arizona attorney Donna Hougen filed a Notice of Substitution of Counsel in the Second Lawsuit.

65. Respondent did not file a Notice of Withdrawal or other similar pleading in the First Lawsuit, but Arizona attorney Donna Hougen filed a Notice of Substitution of Counsel on March 8, 2016.

66. On May 6, 2016, the opposing party filed a response to the First Lawsuit through counsel.

67. On or about July 11, 2016, Blackmore and Respondent entered into an agreement that Respondent would represent Blackmore in both lawsuits *pro bono*.

68. On July 21, 2016, Respondent filed a Notice of Substitution in both lawsuits.

69. On July 21, 2016, Respondent filed a Motion for Reconsideration in the Second Lawsuit.

70. On August 3, 2016, the Court denied the Motion for Reconsideration in the Second Lawsuit.

71. On August 25, 2016, the Court held a Resolution Management Conference on the petition in the First Lawsuit and placed the case on the inactive calendar for “automatic dismissal on **October 7, 2016** unless prior to that date, Intervenor request further action to be taken.” (Emphasis in original).

72. Between September and October 2016, Respondent failed to return Blackmore’s e-mails and phone calls requesting updates on the case.

73. On October 16, 2016, the parties filed a stipulation to all issues in the Second Lawsuit.

74. On October 21, 2016, the parties met in order to discuss Respondent's failure to communicate during the representations. The parties also agreed that Respondent would file the paperwork necessary to continue pursuit of relief in the First Lawsuit.

75. Between October 21, 2016 and December 30, 2016, Respondent failed to return Blackmore's e-mails and phone calls requesting updates on the case.

76. On December 30, 2016, Respondent responded to one of Blackmore's e-mails dated December 16th indicating that he was suspended again and would leave the client files at the front desk of his office.

77. On December 30, 2016, Respondent also filed a Notice of Withdrawal in the First Lawsuit.

78. On April 25, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

79. On April 28, 2017, the Court dismissed the petition in the First Lawsuit for lack of prosecution citing the August 25th minute entry's "automatic dismissal on October 7, 2016".

80. On May 2, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

81. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Blackmore's allegations.

82. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- e. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- f. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

g. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

83. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

COUNT SIX (File No. 17-0629/Martinez)

84. In or around 2014, Jennifer Martinez (“Martinez”) discussed Respondent possibly representing Martinez in a bankruptcy case.

85. Respondent explained that Martinez should wait to file in 2015, so that they could include three specific years of tax liability (3 years old and older) as well as one particular bill of \$11,500.00.

86. In 2015, Martinez paid Respondent \$2000.00 for the bankruptcy representation.

87. While Respondent filed the initial paperwork with the Bankruptcy Court, Respondent “filed too early” to include the \$11,500.00 debt and failed to complete the representation.

88. Despite repeated requests by Martinez and a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney, Respondent has failed to contact Martinez regarding the case.

89. On April 25, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

90. On May 2, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

91. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Martinez's allegations.

92. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.

- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- e. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- f. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- g. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

93. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

94. As any legal services were without value, Martinez is entitled to an order of restitution of \$2000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT SEVEN (File No. 17-0743/Gilmore)

95. On or about June 23, 2016, Maridell Gilmore (“Gilmore”) paid Respondent \$3000.00 to represent him in the Maricopa County Superior Court case of *Gilmore v. McDonough*, FC2016-005896.

96. On June 28, 2016, Respondent contemporaneously filed a Notice of Appearance and responsive pleading to a previously filed petition as well as a Petition to Modify Child Support.

97. On November 30, 2016, the Court held a telephonic status conference attended by Respondent and opposing counsel and his client.

98. At that hearing, the Court scheduled a telephonic status conference on February 28, 2017 at 10:00 am. The Court further ordered that “all parties and counsel are required to participate in the Telephonic Status Conference and that counsel cannot waive a party’s appearance without prior order of the Court.”

99. Respondent failed to inform Gilmore of the February 28, 2017 telephonic status conference.

100. On January 1, 2017, Respondent filed a Notice of Withdrawal based upon his upcoming ninety day suspension from the practice of law in PDJ 2016-9081, effective January 11, 2017.

101. On February 28, 2017, the Court called the case at 10:14 am. Neither Respondent nor his client were present or contacted the court regarding their nonappearance. The Court ordered that Gilmore “shall advise the Court in writing

as to the reason for her absence at today's hearing. Mother's failure to submit said document shall result in the issuance of a Civil Arrest Warrant."

102. On March 9, 2017, Gilmore filed a written document explaining that "I was unaware my presence was required as my attorney, Timothy Steadman, hadn't notified me. I was also unaware he had withdrawn from counsel and soon to follow, suspended from practicing law since early January. He failed to contact me via all routes being email, mail, and phone. All of which have been current. Our communication was minimal and only when I assumed necessary. He assured me in the past that minute entries/status conferences didn't require my attendace (sic) unless otherwise notified. I recently discovered that there were court documents from previous status conferences, including the initial proceeding, that I wasn't given copies of or were notified of even occurring."

103. On March 9, 2017, a State Bar Attorney/Consumer Assistance Program (A/CAP) attorney e-mailed Respondent requesting the Gilmore's file and a complete accounting.

104. On April 13, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his

failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

105. On April 21, 2017, the mailed screening letter was returned as undeliverable.

106. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Gilmore's allegations.

107. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.

g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

108. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

109. As any legal services were without value, Gilmore is entitled to an order of restitution of \$3000.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT EIGHT (File No. 17-0935/Arvidson)

110. In or around August 2015, Julie Arvidson (“Arvidson”) paid Respondent \$1750.00 to represent her in a bankruptcy case.

111. On or about January 19, 2016, Respondent e-mailed Arvidson and indicated that he had received everything that he needed to file the initial bankruptcy paperwork, but that he had “a pretty full morning so I won’t be able to get everything ready today to sign but let me see what I can do for tomorrow.”

112. Arvidson's last contact with Respondent was on March 8, 2016, but they were unable to ascertain the status of the filing.

113. Despite repeated requests, Respondent has failed to contact Arvidson regarding the case since March 8, 2016.

114. On March 27, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

115. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

116. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Arvidson's allegations.

117. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client’s decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client’s interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.
- g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.
- h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

118. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

119. As any legal services were without value, Arvidson is entitled to an order of restitution of \$1750.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

COUNT NINE (File No. 17-1031/Button)

120. In or around November 2014, Christine Button (“Button”) paid Respondent \$168.00 to finalize his mother’s estate and probate.

121. In December 2016, the Court sent Button notification to close the estate.

122. Despite repeated requests, Respondent has failed to contact Button regarding the case.

123. Button hired Arizona attorney Gary Larson to investigate the status of the Notice to Creditors publication and the case.

124. Despite repeated efforts, Larson could not contact Respondent or locate the publication. Shortly thereafter, Button hired Larson to prepare and publish a Notice to Creditors and close the estate.

125. On April 6, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent an initial screening letter requesting that a response to the allegations to be provided within twenty days. The initial screening letter also informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline pursuant to Rule 54(d) and Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., ER 8.1(b).

126. On May 4, 2017, the State Bar mailed and e-mailed Respondent a second request for a written response to be provided within ten days. The second letter again informed Respondent that his failure to fully and honestly respond to, or cooperate with the investigation are grounds for discipline.

127. To date, Respondent has not provided the State Bar with a written response to Button's allegations.

128. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.:

- a. ER 1.2 – Respondent failed to abide to his client's decisions to obtain a patent.
- b. ER 1.3 – Respondent failed to act diligently throughout the lawsuit and his representation of his client.
- c. ER 1.4 – Respondent failed to reasonably communicate with his client regarding the status of the case or respond to inquiries by the client.
- d. ER 1.5 – Respondent charged, collected and retained unearned and unreasonable fees during the representation.
- e. ER 1.16 – Respondent failed to properly withdraw from the representation and take the steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests.
- f. ER 3.2 – Respondent failed to expedite the litigation.

g. ER 8.1 – Respondent knowingly failed to respond to a lawful demand for information from the disciplinary authority in connection with the instant investigation.

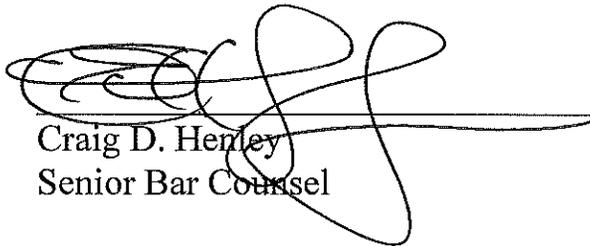
h. ER 8.4(d) – Respondent engaged in conduct which was prejudicial to the administration of justice.

129. By engaging in the above-referenced conduct, Respondent violated Rule 54(d), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. by refusing to cooperate, furnish information or respond promptly to any inquiry or request from bar counsel relevant to the pending charges.

130. As any legal services were without value, Button is entitled to an order of restitution of \$168.00 pursuant to Rule 60(a)(6), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

DATED this 4th day of August, 2017.

STATE BAR OF ARIZONA



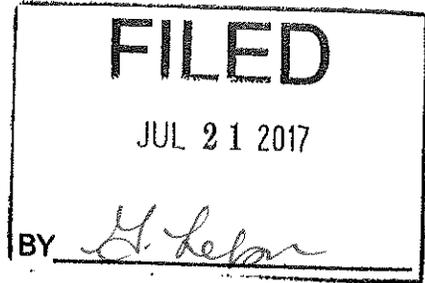
Craig D. Henley
Senior Bar Counsel

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of
the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge
of the Supreme Court of Arizona
this 4th day of August, 2017.

by: _____

CDH:nr

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



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

No. 16-1644

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 16-1644.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 21st day
of July, 2017 with:

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

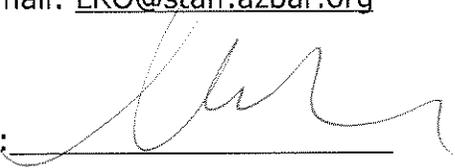
Copy mailed this 24th day
of July, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

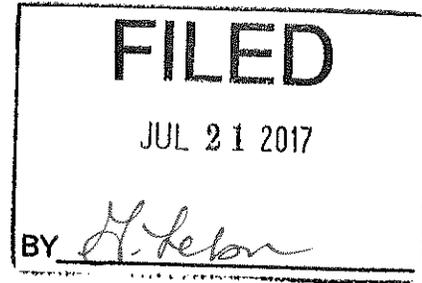
Copy emailed this 24th day
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Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
E-mail: ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: _____


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



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

No. 17-0190

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0190.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 21st day
of July, 2017 with:

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

Copy mailed this 20th day
of July, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

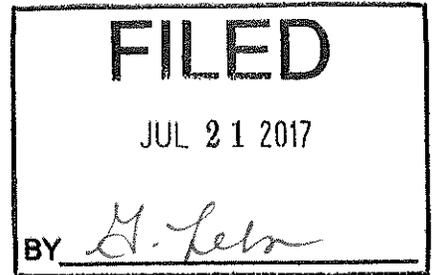
Copy emailed this 21st day
of July, 2017, to:

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

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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



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

No. 17-0275

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0275.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 21st day
of July, 2017 with:

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

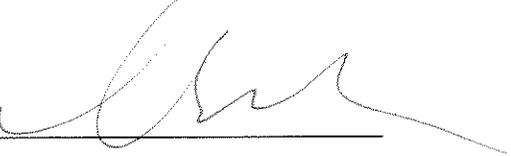
Copy mailed this 24th day
of July, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

Copy emailed this 24th day
of July, 2017, to:

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of the Supreme Court of Arizona
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
E-mail: ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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

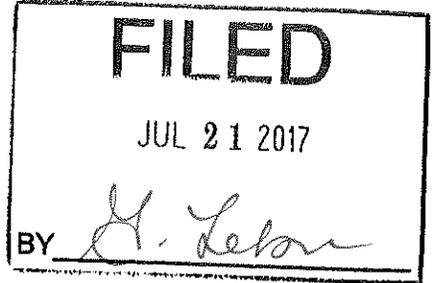
IN THE MATTER OF A SUSPENDED
MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR OF
ARIZONA,

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

Respondent.

No. 17-0286

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER



The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0286.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 24th day
of July, 2017 with:

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

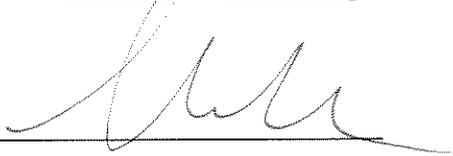
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Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

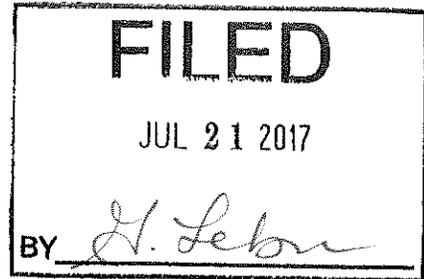
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of the Supreme Court of Arizona
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
E-mail: ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: _____


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



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

No. 17-0354

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, pursuant to Rules 50 and 55, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation and Complainant's Response.

By a vote of 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0354.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 20th day
of July, 2017 with:

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

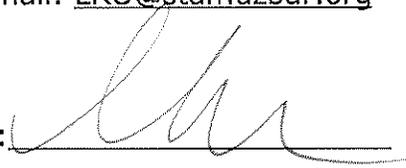
Copy mailed this 20th day
of July, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

Copy emailed this 20th day
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of the Supreme Court of Arizona
1501 West Washington Street, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
E-mail: ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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

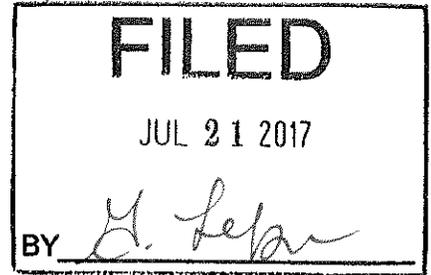
IN THE MATTER OF A SUSPENDED
MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR OF
ARIZONA,

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

Respondent.

No. 17-0629

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER



The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0629.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 24th day
of July, 2017 with:

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

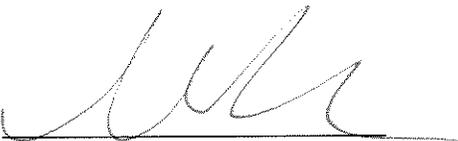
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Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

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Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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

FILED
JUL 21 2017
BY *H. Lebon*

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

No. 17-0743

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

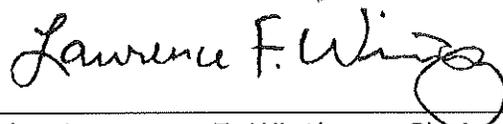
The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, pursuant to Rules 50 and 55, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation.

By a vote of 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0743.

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 21 day of July, 2017.



Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 20th day
of July, 2017 with:

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

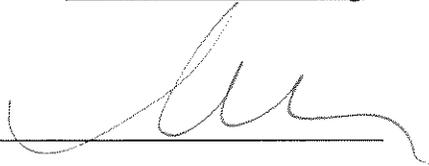
Copy mailed this 21st day
of July, 2017, to:

Timothy W. Steadman
Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

Copy emailed this 21st day
of July, 2017, to:

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

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager
State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266
E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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

FILED

JUL 21 2017

BY



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

No. 17-0935

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

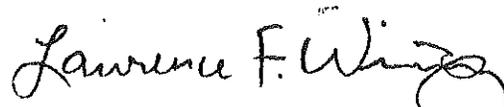
The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, pursuant to Rules 50 and 55, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation.

By a vote of 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-0935.

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 21 day of July, 2017.



Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

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Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266

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Steadman Law Firm
1423 S. Higley Road, Suite 109
Mesa, AZ 85206-3449
Respondent

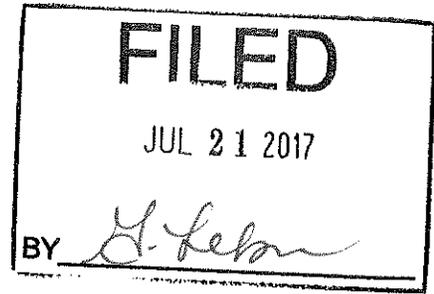
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E-mail: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: 

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



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

No. 17-1031

TIMOTHY W. STEADMAN
Bar No. 022708

PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER

Respondent.

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 7, 2017, 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 8-0-1¹, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 17-1031.

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 21 day of July, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence F. Winthrop".

Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Chair
Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee
of the Supreme Court of Arizona

¹ Committee member Charles Muchmore did not participate in this matter.

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by: 