

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY  
JUDGE**

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

**J. CRAIG MEHRENS,  
Bar No. 019205**

Respondent.

**No. PDJ 2015-9127**

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER**

[State Bar Nos. 14-2877, 15-0545]

**FILED APRIL 28, 2016**

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on April 22, 2016, accepted the parties' proposed agreement under Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

Accordingly:

**IT IS ORDERED** Respondent, **J. Craig Mehrens**, is suspended for thirty (30) days effective June 1, 2016.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** upon reinstatement, Mr. Mehrens shall be placed on Probation for two (2) years under the agreement terms, which shall include completion of the SBA Professionalism Course

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** Mr. Mehrens shall contact the State Bar Compliance Monitor at (602) 340-7258, within ten (10) days from the date of this order, to schedule an assessment under LRO MAP (Anger Management) and LRO MAP Alcohol Screening Assessment. The Compliance Monitor shall develop terms and conditions of participation if the results of the assessment so indicate and the terms, including reporting requirements, shall be incorporated herein. Mr. Mehrens shall be responsible for any costs associated with participation with compliance.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** Mr. Mehrens shall be subject to any additional terms imposed by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge as a result of any reinstatement hearings held.

**NON-COMPLIANCE LANGUAGE**

In the event that Respondent fails to comply with any of the foregoing probation terms, and information thereof, is received by the State Bar of Arizona, Bar Counsel shall file a notice of noncompliance with the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, pursuant to Rule 60(a)(5), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge may conduct a hearing within 30 days to determine whether a term of probation has been breached and, if so, to recommend an appropriate sanction. If there is an allegation that Respondent failed to comply with any of the foregoing terms, the burden of proof shall be on the State Bar of Arizona to prove noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence.

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

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** Mr. Mehrens shall pay the costs and expenses of the State Bar of Arizona in the amount of \$1,200.00 within thirty (30) days from the date of this order. There are no costs or expenses incurred by the disciplinary clerk and/or Presiding Disciplinary Judge's Office in connection with these disciplinary proceedings.

**DATED** this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

*William J. O'Neil*

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

Copies of the foregoing mailed/e-mailed  
this 28th day of April, 2016, to:

Stacy L Shuman  
Bar Counsel - Litigation  
State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
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Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266

by: [AMcQueen](#)

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY  
JUDGE**

---

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

**J. CRAIG MEHRENS,  
Bar No. 019205**

Respondent.

**No. PDJ-2015-9127**

**DECISION ACCEPTING  
AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE  
BY CONSENT**

[State Bar File Nos. 14-2877,  
15-0545

**FILED APRIL 28, 2016**

An Agreement for Discipline by Consent ("Agreement") was filed April 22, 2016, and submitted under Rule 57(a)(3), of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court. Probable Cause Orders were issued in both matters on July 27, 2015. The Complaint was filed on December 18, 2015. Upon filing such Agreement, the presiding disciplinary judge, "shall accept, reject or recommend modification of the agreement as appropriate."

Rule 57(a)(2) requires admissions be tendered solely "...in exchange for the stated form of discipline..." Under that rule, the right to an adjudicatory hearing is waived only if the "...conditional admission and proposed form of discipline is approved..." If the agreement is not accepted those conditional admissions are automatically withdrawn and shall not be used against the parties in any subsequent proceeding.

Under Rule 53(b)(3), complainant(s) were notified of the Agreement by letter dated March 23, 2016. Complainants were notified of the opportunity to file a written objection to the Agreement with the State Bar within five (5) days business days of bar counsel's notice. No objection was received.

In Count One, Mr. Mehrens represented a client charged with two counts of aggravated DUI, class 4 felonies. Deputy County Attorney, Soo Chang, originally offered a standard plea to one count of endangerment, a class 6 undesignated felony, which could ultimately be designated a misdemeanor, and one count of DUI, a class 1 misdemeanor. Mr. Mehrens would testify acceptance of the plea was only conditioned upon confirmation of the B.A.C. by the blood tests being over the legal limit. She agreed to keep the plea open pending the results of blood tests confirming the B.A.C. was over the legal limit. In anticipation of the status conference, Deputy County Attorney Chang staffed the case with her supervisor, Deputy County Attorney, Amy Diederich, who told her due to a change in office policy the endangerment had to be designated a felony.

On May 27, 2014. Ms. Chang and Mr. Mehrens met before the status conference in the negotiation room. Ms. Chang informed Mr. Mehrens of the change in office policy and that the endangerment count would be required to be designated a felony. Mr. Mehrens protested and demanded to speak with Ms. Chang's supervisor. She called her supervisor, Ms. Diederich. In the agreement Mr. Mehrens states he had an unpleasant professional relationship with Ms. Diederich. The agreement states, if this matter proceeded to hearing, Ms. Diederich would testify when she entered the negotiation room, Mr. Mehrens yelled he was taking the original offer, the State could not change it and continued to yell while Ms. Diederich tried to

explain the reason for the change. She would testify Mr. Mehrens accused her of being unprofessional, unethical, a "scumbag" and a "pig". When Mr. Mehrens asked for her name, he replied, "Oh, that's right. Everyone hates you."

Mr. Mehrens admits that he portrayed and held himself out as being extremely upset and that his conduct was deliberate. He does not deny he yelled at Ms. Diederich and affirms he used "negative" language. He does not recall calling her these two names. He acknowledges he may have had an angry tone. Under the conditional admissions he acknowledges he was angry and may have used "negative" language.

If this matter went to hearing, Attorney Tyler Harrison would testify he observed Mr. Mehrens "yelling" at Ms. Diederich, "calling [her] names," and "yelling in a voice loud enough for everyone in the room to hear" and Mr. Mehrens told her everyone "hates" her. He would also testify Mr. Mehrens "got in her face," was "stomping around" and "parading to make a show." Mr. Mehrens admits he left the negotiation room, went to the courtroom and affirmed the preliminary hearing date without calling the case on the record and then left.

Mr. Mehrens admits his conduct violated (1) E.R. 4.4(a) [respect for rights of others], [In representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay or burden any other person] and (2) Rule 41(g) [The duties and obligations of members shall be to avoid engaging in unprofessional conduct. Rule 31(a)(2)(E) defines unprofessional conduct as substantial or repeated violations of the Oath of Admission to the Bar or the Lawyer's Creed of Professionalism of the State Bar of Arizona.]

In Count Two, Mr. Mehrens conditionally admits he was involved in an accident, arrested by police for leaving the scene of an accident, charged with five counts and convicted of three. Those were failure to yield in an intersection, A.R.S. § 28-772; DUI BAC over .08 within two hours of driving, A.R.S. § 28-1381; and leaving the scene of an accident, A.R.S. § 28-662. It is his second DUI in the past seven years. The criminal conviction is on appeal. Despite that appeal, for purposes of this agreement only, he admits the conviction of the DUI constitutes a violation of E.R. 8.4(b) [Misconduct] [It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects.]

The agreement dismissing State Bar charge 15-0545 alleging a violation of Rule 54(g) [Conviction of a crime] and charge 14-2877, an alleged violation of E.R. 8.4(d) [Misconduct] [It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice].

The parties conditionally agree that *Standards 7.2, Violations of other Duties Owed as a Professional*, of the American Bar Association's *Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions (Standards)* is most applicable to the violation of Rule 41(g).

*Standard 7.2* provides:

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.

For the agreement, the parties agree the conduct of Mr. Mehrens was intentional and there was actual harm to the profession and potential harm to the legal system.

The parties agree aggravating factors include: 9.22(a) prior disciplinary offenses; (i) substantial experience in the practice of law; and (k) illegal conduct. In mitigation are factors: 9.32(b) (absence of selfish or dishonest motive); (g) character or reputation; and (k) imposition of other penalties or sanctions (DUI).

The agreement states the disciplinary history of Mr. Mehrens reflects bar charges in 09-1793, 2281, 2282 and 10-0955. These apparently each include terms of probation for: aggravated assault of a police officer (designated a misdemeanor); "unsuccessfully attempting to stipulate with the State to facts that he knew to be false" and a misdemeanor DUI with a .138 BAC.

One stated purpose of lawyer discipline is not to punish a respondent lawyer, but to protect the public and the administration of justice. *Matter of Peasley*, 208 Ariz. 27, 90 P.3d 764 (2004).

**IT IS ORDERED** incorporating the Agreement and any supporting documents by this reference. The agreed upon sanctions are: a thirty (30) day suspension, two (2) years of probation (LRO MAP Alcohol Screening and MAP Assessment) and costs of \$1,200.00 to the State Bar of Arizona within thirty (30) days from this order.

**IT IS ORDERED** accepting the Agreement. A final judgment and order is signed this date.

**DATED** 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

*William J. O'Neil*

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

///

Copies of the foregoing mailed/e-mailed  
April 28, 2016 to:

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by: AMcQueen

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Respondent's Counsel

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY  
JUDGE**

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

**J. CRAIG MEHRENS,  
Bar No. 019205**

Respondent.

**PDJ 2015-9127**

State Bar File Nos.  
**14-2877, 15-0545**

**AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY  
CONSENT**

The State Bar of Arizona, through undersigned Bar Counsel, and Respondent, J. Craig Mehrens, who is represented in this matter by counsel, Stephen M. Dichter, hereby submit their Agreement for Discipline by Consent, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

A probable cause order was entered in both cases on July 27, 2015, and a formal complaint was filed on December 18, 2015. The parties participated in a settlement conference with Settlement Officer Richard N. Goldsmith on March 22, 2016, pursuant to the Orders Re: Initial Case Management Conference dated February 9, 2016. Respondent voluntarily waives the right to an adjudicatory hearing, unless

otherwise ordered, and waives all motions, defenses, objections or requests which have been made or raised, or could be asserted thereafter, if the conditional admission and proposed form of discipline is approved.

Pursuant to Rule 53(b)(3), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., notice of this agreement was provided to the complainant by letter dated March 23, 2016. Complainant have been notified of the opportunity to file a written objection to the agreement with the State Bar within five (5) business days of bar counsel's notice. No objection has been received.

Respondent conditionally admits that his conduct, as set forth below, violated Rule 42, ERs 4.4(a), 8.4(b) and Rule 41(g). Upon acceptance of this agreement, Respondent agrees to accept imposition of the following discipline: Suspension for 30 days and Probation for a period of 2 years. The terms of Probation shall include (1) a LRO MAP Alcohol Screening Assessment; (2) a MAP Assessment for anger management issues; and (3) CLE, specifically Respondent shall take the SBA's Professionalism Course. It is further agreed that, if as a result of the assessments referenced hereinabove, any course of treatment is recommended, Respondent shall be permitted to have such treatment provided by a medical or mental health practitioner of his choosing, however, the provider or practitioner must submit quarterly reports to the State Bar's compliance monitor. Respondent also agrees to pay the costs and expenses of the disciplinary proceeding, within 30 days from the date of this order, and if costs are not paid within the 30 days, interest will begin to

accrue at the legal rate.<sup>1</sup> The State Bar's Statement of Costs and Expenses is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

The parties request that Respondent's period of suspension commence on June 1, 2016, due to Respondent's criminal defense schedule.

## **FACTS**

### **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

1. Respondent was licensed to practice law in Arizona on March, 23, 1999.

#### **COUNT ONE (File no. 14-2877/Marshall)**

2. Respondent, a criminal defense attorney, represented Clayton Reszel (Defendant). Defendant was charged with two counts of aggravated DUI, class 4 felonies, in CR 2014-117174. Respondent indicates that the State initially offered its standard plea: one count of endangerment, a class 6 undesignated felony, which could later be designated a misdemeanor in the discretion of the sentencing judge (generally after probation had been successfully completed and any monetary sanctions satisfied), and one count of DUI, a class 1 misdemeanor.

3. If this matter went to hearing, Respondent would testify that at the time of the initial offer, the State did not have the blood test results. Therefore, the plea offer was accepted, conditioned only upon the B.A.C. coming back from forensic testing over the legal limit. The case was continued to await the test results, which ultimately confirmed that the Defendant's B.A.C. was over the legal limit. Respondent would testify that as a result, plea agreement was in place and that his client was

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

prepared to enter a plea under the terms of the plea agreement at the status conference, which had been set for May 27, 2014.

4. In anticipation of the status conference, Deputy County Attorney Soo Chang staffed the case with her supervisor, Amy Diederich. If this matter went to hearing, Chang would testify that she was told that due to a change in office policy, the endangerment count, which had been a class 6 open, was now required to be a class 6 designated felony.

5. On May 27, 2014, Respondent and Chang met in the negotiation room in advance of the status conference. When Chang explained the change in office policy to Respondent, he protested and demanded to speak to her supervisor, Amy Diederich. Respondent states that he had had an unpleasant professional relationship with Diederich.

6. If this matter went to hearing, Diederich would testify that when she entered the negotiation room, Respondent began yelling that he was taking the original offer and that the State could not change it; that Respondent continued to yell while Diederich tried to explain the reason for the change; that the State was not required to offer any plea agreement to Defendant; and that Respondent accused her of being unprofessional and unethical. Diederich would also testify that Respondent called her a "scumbag" and a "pig" and that she told Respondent that she would be happy to discuss the matter, but that he needed to "calm down and discuss it in an adult way." And, when Respondent asked Diederich her name, he replied, "Oh that's right. Everyone hates you."

7. Respondent admits that he portrayed and held himself out as being extremely upset because the State was not honoring the original plea offer and that

his conduct was deliberate. He does not recall calling Diederich a "scumbag" or a "pig" and disavows use of those particular words but does readily admit to calling her a "troglodyte" and other words designed to focus her attention on the fact that the State was reneging on a plea agreement it had made. Respondent understands that the language used was inappropriate. Respondent does not deny that he yelled at Diederich and affirms that he used "negative" language, and acknowledges that he may have raised his voice and/or had an angry tone.

8. If this matter went to hearing, Attorney Tyler Harrison would testify that he observed Respondent "yelling" at Diederich, "calling [her] names," and yelling in a voice loud enough for everyone in the room to hear that everyone "hates" her and that Respondent "got in her face," was "stomping around," and "parading to make a show."

9. Respondent left the negotiation room, went into the courtroom and affirmed the preliminary hearing date without calling the case on the record and then left. If this matter went to hearing, Respondent would testify that while he failed to call the case when he left the negotiation room, he contacted a County Attorney Supervisor to protest Diederich's refusal to honor the previously offered plea. Though no explanation was ever provided to Respondent by the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, the Office reversed its position, reinstated the plea agreement.

10. As a result of the forgoing, on July 25, 2014, Defendant was allowed to plead guilty according to the terms of the original plea offer.

11. For purposes of this agreement, Respondent admits that the foregoing conduct violated (1) ER 4.4(a) [Respect for Rights of Others] [In representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no substantial purpose other than to

embarrass, delay, or burden any other person] and (2) Rule 41(g) [The duties and obligations of members shall be to avoid engaging in unprofessional conduct. Rule 31(a)(2)(E) defines unprofessional conduct as substantial or repeated violations of the Oath of Admission to the Bar or the Lawyer's Creed of Professionalism of the State Bar of Arizona].

**COUNT TWO (File no. 15-0545/Judicial Referral/Marshall)**

12. Respondent was involved in an accident and was arrested by police for leaving the scene of the accident.

13. According to the police report, the accident occurred at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Camelback in Phoenix, Arizona. There was a collision between Respondent's car and a pick-up truck. If this matter went to hearing, Respondent would testify that the pick-up truck ran the red light and hit Respondent's vehicle.

14. The police report further reflects that, after the collision, Respondent exited his vehicle and spoke to the driver of the pick-up. Respondent also spoke to an eye witness nearby, who helped him attempt to push Respondent's car out of the roadway, with no success. Respondent then walked down the street. At the underlying criminal trial, the police officer who arrested Respondent testified that he located Respondent east of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, on Camelback, walking around in the parking lot of either a Culvers restaurant or a Chevron gas station.

15. Respondent was charged in the Phoenix Municipal Court with 5 counts: Count I--A.R.S. 28-772 [failure to yield in an intersection]; Count II--28-664(a)(2) [duty on striking unattended vehicle]; Count III--28-1381(A)(1) [DUI]; Count IV--28-1381(A)(2) [DUI BAC over .08 within two hours of driving] and Count V--28-662 [Leaving the Scene of an accident].

16. On November 18, 2014, Respondent was convicted on Counts I, IV and V. Count II was dismissed and Respondent was found not guilty on Count III (DUI).

17. Respondent was ordered to serve 90 days in jail, with sixty (60) days suspended. He was assessed various fines and ordered to complete thirty (30) hours of community restitution. The community restitution was ordered because this was Respondent's second DUI in the past seven (7) years. On September 26, 2008, he was arrested for misdemeanor DUI with a BAC of .138. (SBA Case No. 09-2282).

18. The criminal conviction is currently on appeal.

19. While maintaining his right to appeal the conviction, for purposes of this agreement Respondent admits that the conviction of Count IV [BAC over .08 within two hours of driving] constitutes a violation of ER 8.4(b) [Misconduct] [It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects].

#### **CONDITIONAL ADMISSIONS**

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

Respondent conditionally admits that his conduct violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., specifically Rule 41(g) and ER 4.4 (a) in SBA Case No. 14-2877 and ER 8.4(b) in SBA Case No. 15-0545.

#### **CONDITIONAL DISMISSALS**

The State Bar has conditionally agreed to dismiss ER 8.4(d) [Misconduct] [It is professional misconduct for lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice], as alleged in SBA Case No. 14-2877. If this matter went to

hearing the evidence is expected to reflect that while Respondent failed to call the case after he left the negotiation room, he consulted with a County Attorney Supervisor regarding the refusal to honor the original plea agreement, and the original plea agreement was reinstated. The State Bar has also conditionally agreed to dismiss Rule 54(g), as alleged in SBA Case No. 15-0545 [Conviction of a Crime] [A lawyer shall be disciplined as the facts warrant upon conviction of a misdemeanor involving a serious crime or of any felony]. Respondent's criminal conviction is currently on appeal. For purposes of this Agreement, the State Bar believes that Respondent's conduct will be adequately addressed by ER 8.4(b) and the agreed upon sanction will satisfy the purposes of lawyer discipline in this case.

#### **RESTITUTION**

Restitution is not an issue in this matter.

#### **SANCTION**

Respondent and the State Bar of Arizona agree that based on the facts and circumstances of this matter, as set forth above, the following sanctions are appropriate: Suspension for 30 days and Probation for two (2) years, the terms of which are as follows: Participation in a LRO MAP Alcohol Screening Assessment, participation in a LRO MAP Assessment for anger management issues; and CLE (The SBA Professionalism Course).

If Respondent violates any of the terms of this Agreement, further discipline proceedings may be brought.

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

In determining an appropriate sanction, the parties consulted the American Bar Association's *Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions (Standards)* pursuant to Rule

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

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

The parties agree that *Standard* 7.2 is the appropriate *Standard* given the facts and circumstances of this matter. *Standard* 7.2 provides that 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.

#### **The duty violated**

As described above, Respondent's conduct violated his duty to the profession, the legal system, and the public.

#### **The lawyer's mental state**

For purposes of this agreement the parties agree that Respondent's conduct was intentional. The parties further agree that Respondent's conduct violated the Rules of Professional Conduct.

### **The extent of the actual or potential injury**

For purposes of this agreement, the parties agree that there was actual harm to the profession and potential harm to the legal system.

### **Aggravating and mitigating circumstances**

The presumptive sanction in this matter is Suspension. The parties conditionally agree that the following aggravating and mitigating factors should be considered.

#### **In aggravation:**

*Standard 9.22(a)* prior disciplinary offenses. 10-0955—Probation. ER 8.4(d) [unsuccessfully attempted to stipulate with the State to facts that he knew to be false]. Concurrent with probation in 09-2282 and 09-1793. CLE 3 hours in ethics; 09-2282—Probation. ER 8.4(d) [misdemeanor DUI; .138 BAC] Probation with MAP to run concurrent with 09-1793; 09-1793—Probation. ER 8.4(d) [Aggravated Assault of a police officer; designated a misdemeanor]. Probation with MAP to run concurrent with 09-2281.

*Standard 9.22(i)* substantial experience in the practice of law. Respondent was admitted to practice in 1999.

*Standard 9.22(k)* illegal conduct. DUI.

#### **In mitigation:**

*Standard 9.32(b)* absence of a dishonest or selfish motive;

*Standard 9.32(g)* character or reputation. Respondent has attached hereto as Exhibit B several letters of reference and notes that present Bar matters do not stem from client complaints;

*Standard 9.32(k)* imposition of other penalties or sanctions with respect to Case No. 15-0545 (the DUI case).

**Discussion**

The parties have conditionally agreed that, upon application of the aggravating and mitigating factors to the facts of this case, the presumptive sanction is appropriate.

The parties have conditionally agreed that a greater or lesser sanction would not be appropriate under the facts and circumstances of this matter.

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

**CONCLUSION**

The object of lawyer discipline is not to punish the lawyer, but to protect the public, the profession and the administration of justice. *Peasley, supra* at ¶ 64, 90 P.3d at 778. Recognizing that determination of the appropriate sanction is the prerogative of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, the State Bar and Respondent believe that the objectives of discipline will be met by the imposition of the proposed sanction of Suspension for 30 days with Probation, and the imposition of costs and expenses. A proposed form order is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

**DATED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.

**STATE BAR OF ARIZONA**



Stacy L. Shuman  
Staff Bar Counsel

**This agreement, with conditional admissions, is submitted freely and voluntarily and not under coercion or intimidation. I acknowledge my duty under the Rules of the Supreme Court with respect to discipline and reinstatement. I understand these duties may include notification of clients, return of property and other rules pertaining to suspension.**

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

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Jeffery C. Mehrens  
Respondent

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

Christian Dichter & Sluga PC

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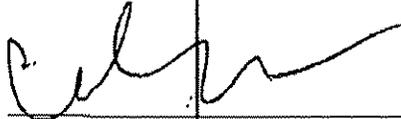
Stephen M. Dichter  
Counsel for Respondent

Approved as to form and content

  
Maret Vessella  
Chief Bar Counsel

**This agreement, with conditional admissions, is submitted freely and voluntarily and not under coercion or intimidation. I acknowledge my duty under the Rules of the Supreme Court with respect to discipline and reinstatement. I understand these duties may include notification of clients, return of property and other rules pertaining to suspension.**

**DATED** this 22 day of April, 2016.



Jeffery C. Mehrens  
Respondent

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

Christian Dichter & Sluga PC

Stephen M. Dichter  
Counsel for Respondent

Approved as to form and content

Maret Vessella  
Maret Vessella  
Chief Bar Counsel

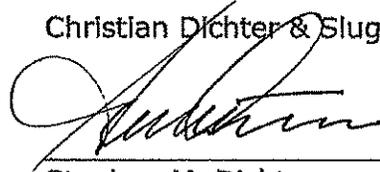
**This agreement, with conditional admissions, is submitted freely and voluntarily and not under coercion or intimidation. I acknowledge my duty under the Rules of the Supreme Court with respect to discipline and reinstatement. I understand these duties may include notification of clients, return of property and other rules pertaining to suspension.**

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffery C. Mehrens  
Respondent

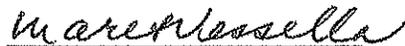
**DATED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2016.

Christian Dichter & Sluga PC



\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen M. Dichter  
Counsel for Respondent

Approved as to form and content



\_\_\_\_\_  
Maret Vessella  
Chief Bar Counsel

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of  
the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge  
of the Supreme Court of Arizona  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2016.

Copies of the foregoing mailed/emailed  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2016 to:

Steven M. Dichter, Bar No. 004043  
Christian Dichter & Sluga PC  
2700 North Central Ave., Ste. 1200  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1139  
Telephone 602-253-5808  
Email: [sdichter@cdslawfirm.com](mailto:sdichter@cdslawfirm.com)  
Respondent's Counsel

Copy of the foregoing emailed  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2016, to:

William J. O'Neil  
Presiding Disciplinary Judge  
Supreme Court of Arizona  
Email: [officepdj@courts.az.gov](mailto:officepdj@courts.az.gov)

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2016, to:

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

by: Karen E. Calcagno  
SLS: KEC

# **EXHIBIT A**

## **Statement of Costs and Expenses**

In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona,  
J. Craig Mehrens, Bar No. 019205, Respondent

File No(s). 14-2877 and 15-0545  
(PDJ 2015-9127)

### **Administrative Expenses**

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

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

***General Administrative Expenses  
for above-numbered proceedings*** **\$1,200.00**

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

### **Staff Investigator/Miscellaneous Charges**

Total for staff investigator charges	\$ 0.00
<b><u>TOTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,200.00</u></b>

## **EXHIBIT B**

THE LAW OFFICE OF  
TED J. CREWS

---

September 21, 2015

State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Phoenix, AZ 85016-6266

RE: Attorney Jeff C. Mehrens

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a member in good standing with the State Bar of Arizona. I'm writing this letter to you on behalf of Jeff Mehrens, a friend and colleague for whom I have great professional respect. I understand that Jeff faces reprimand by the bar. My purpose in writing is to speak to his good character and professionalism in the hopes you will consider such as mitigation on his behalf.

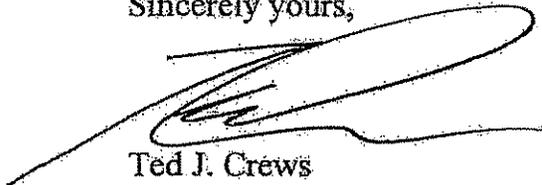
I first met Jeff when we worked together at the Maricopa County Public Defender's Office. I later left that office and opened my own law firm. Within a year Jeff also left and landed in my office in a sharing arrangement, which lasted approximately two years. While I moved on to another location, Jeff still remains there at that same location. All told, I've been a friend and colleague to Jeff for around fourteen years.

When I learned Jeff was facing reprimand I immediately wanted to do something on his behalf. I'm writing this letter because of the professional admiration I hold for him. Jeff Mehrens is a fantastic criminal defense lawyer who I hold in the highest professional regard. I know that Jeff has helped me deal with complicated legal issues anytime I've sought his assistance. I also know that Jeff has given of himself through volunteerism and assisting folks on a pro-bono basis when they lacked funds to hire him when he felt that justice would be ill served were he not to help them.

Jeff Mehrens is one of the smartest and learned attorneys I know. He is keenly aware of the intricacies of the law and keeps up to date with changes. I can say without hesitation that if I were in need of criminal defense representation I would gladly turn to Jeff to help me out. Jeff also freely shares his knowledge with other colleagues and I've always found such advice to be helpful and accurate.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss my support of Jeff Mehrens further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted J. Crews', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Ted J. Crews  
Attorney at Law

# JAMES TINKER

Attorney at Law

TWO NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE • SUITE 2600 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004

Telephone: (602) 495-3111

Telefax: (602) 495-3113

TinkerLawOffices@gmail.com

September 22, 2015

State Bar of Arizona  
C/O Denise M. Quinterri  
5401 S. FM 1626 Ste. 170-423  
Kyle, Texas 78640

Dear Members of the Hearing Panel:

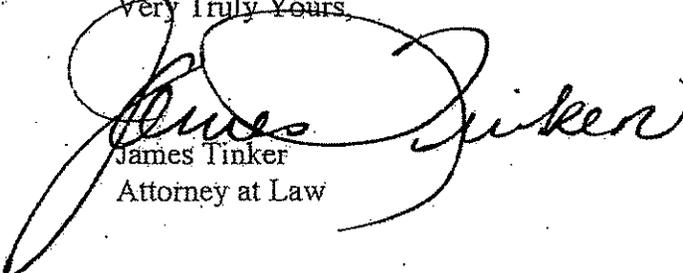
I am writing on behalf of J. Craig Mehrens. I have been an attorney for 19 years and a judge *pro tem* for more than 10 years. I have known Mr. Mehrens for more than 15 years, having met him when I was serving as a prosecutor for the City of Phoenix.

I have had the opportunity to observe Mr. Mehrens in his office and in court, with clients, and at social functions we have both attended. It is my opinion that Mr. Mehrens is an outstanding individual who is very bright and advocates vigorously on behalf of his clients. He is honest to a fault, even openly discussing with me his current disciplinary action and his efforts to address the issues it presents.

I understand Mr. Mehrens made some mistakes in judgment in the past, and I am quite familiar with his past conduct. This does not change my opinion of Mr. Mehrens as an Attorney. I believe he is a good person, an honest and trustworthy individual, and I would trust him with any criminal case. Indeed, I have referred several potential clients to Mr. Mehrens over the years, and will continue to do so.

If you should have any questions regarding the contents of this letter or my opinion of Mr. Mehrens, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time for further information. Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,



James Tinker  
Attorney at Law

# LAW OFFICE OF NICHOLAS FONTANA, PLLC

Nicholas A. Fontana, Esq.

P.O. Box 364  
Tucson, AZ 85702  
(520) 937-4425  
(520) 828-8683 - fax  
fontanahn@cox.net

September 23, 2015

State Bar of Arizona  
C/O Denise M. Quinterri  
5401 S. FM 1626 Ste. 170-423  
Kyle, Texas 78640

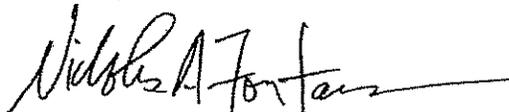
Dear Members of the Hearing Panel,

I was admitted to the Arizona Bar in 1992. Although I have served as a judge pro tem for Tucson City Court and the Tohono O'odham Nation, as well as been a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, the majority of my professional career has been devoted to the practice of criminal defense.

In 2004, I became the Chief Public Defender for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in Tucson, Arizona. It was in this capacity that I met Jeffrey Melrens. Running a small, resource-starved indigent defense office required me to seek the help and advice of attorneys from across the state. Mr. Melrens was one of the first attorneys to respond and was consistently willing to share his time and expertise with me at no cost. His interest in the work I was doing on the reservation was so sincere that he applied for, and was admitted to, the Pascua Yaqui Bar Association, so that he could be available to me and my clients in court proceedings. His unstinting support and advice made a difference in the lives of many of my clients.

Mr. Melrens has fully disclosed to me the nature of the proceedings against him. His errors in judgment do nothing to alter my belief that he is an honest, talented, and generous attorney.

Sincerely,

  
Nicholas A. Fontana

Natalee Segal  
Ballecer & Segal, LLP  
1095 E. Indian School Road #600  
Phoenix, Arizona 85014  
(602) 277-0044  
(602) 926-8857 (fax)  
[nataleesegal@gmail.com](mailto:nataleesegal@gmail.com)

September 21, 2015

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

RE: Attorney Jeff Mehrens

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an attorney in good standing with the Arizona State Bar. I am writing this letter on behalf of my friend, and colleague Jeff Mehrens.

I understand that Jeff is facing some challenges with the State Bar and it is my intention to send a letter in support of him and also for mitigation in the area of good character and professionalism.

I have known Jeff for approximately 15 years. We have worked together on some criminal defense cases and spoken on numerous occasions throughout the years about difficult legal issues that we have encountered, bouncing ideas off of each other. It saddens me that the State Bar is considering reprimanding Jeff for his professionalism. I

know that Jeff can come across as condescending and sometimes abrasive, but these are aspects of Jeff's personality quirks and never purposefully malicious or hurtful. It can be a frustrating job as a defense attorney constantly battling the state. Most of us, as our only weapon, have our words to voice our displeasure at the nastiness that we face on a daily basis, not from our clients, but from the government. From time to time it may become disrespectful, but from a professional standpoint, there is much worse that the Bar should be fighting.

Jeff is a good lawyer, and while a boundary pusher, a good person. I like and respect Jeff and I know that he fights hard for his clients.

I am available if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natalee Segal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Natalee Segal

# **EXHIBIT C**

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY  
JUDGE**

---

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

**J. Craig Mehrens,  
Bar No. 019205,**

Respondent.

**PDJ 2015-9127**

**FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER**

[State Bar Nos. 14-2877, 15-0545]

The undersigned Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona, having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on April 22, 2016, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., hereby accepts the parties' proposed agreement. Accordingly:

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent, **J. Craig Mehrens**, is hereby Suspended for a period of thirty (30) days effective \_\_\_\_\_, and placed on Probation for two (2) years for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that with respect to the LRO MAP (Anger Management) and LRO MAP Alcohol Screening Assessment, Respondent shall contact the State Bar Compliance Monitor at (602) 340-7258, within 10 days from the date of service of this Order/Agreement, to schedule an assessment. The Compliance Monitor shall develop terms and conditions of participation if the results of the assessment so indicate and the terms, including reporting requirements, shall be incorporated herein. Respondent will be responsible for any costs associated with participation with compliance.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent shall be subject to any additional terms imposed by the Presiding Disciplinary Judge as a result of any reinstatement hearings held.

**NON-COMPLIANCE LANGUAGE**

In the event that Respondent fails to comply with any of the foregoing probation terms, and information thereof, is received by the State Bar of Arizona, Bar Counsel shall file a notice of noncompliance with the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, pursuant to Rule 60(a)(5), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. The Presiding Disciplinary Judge may conduct a hearing within 30 days to determine whether a term of probation has been breached and, if so, to recommend an appropriate sanction. If there is an allegation that Respondent failed to comply with any of the foregoing terms, the burden of proof shall be on the State Bar of Arizona to prove noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence.

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

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent pay the costs and expenses of the State Bar of Arizona in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, within 30 days from the date of service of this Order.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent shall pay the costs and expenses incurred by the disciplinary clerk and/or Presiding Disciplinary Judge's Office in connection with these disciplinary proceedings in the amount of

\_\_\_\_\_, within 30 days from the date of service of this Order.

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
**William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge**

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of  
the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge  
of the Supreme Court of Arizona  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

Copies of the foregoing mailed/emailed  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016.

Steven M. Dichter, Bar No. 004043  
Christian Dichter & Sluga PC  
2700 North Central Ave., Ste. 1200  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1139  
Telephone 602-253-5808  
Email: [sdichter@cdslawfirm.com](mailto:sdichter@cdslawfirm.com)  
Respondent's Counsel

Copy of the foregoing emailed/hand-delivered  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016, to:

Stacy L Shuman  
Bar Counsel - Litigation  
State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266  
Email: [LRO@staff.azbar.org](mailto:LRO@staff.azbar.org)

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2016 to:

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

by: \_\_\_\_\_

DEC 18 2015

BY St FILED

Stacy L. Shuman, Bar No. 018399  
Staff Bar Counsel  
State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266  
Telephone (602)340-7247  
Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

**BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY  
JUDGE**

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

**J. CRAIG MEHRENS,  
AKA JEFFREY CRAIG MEHRENS,  
Bar No. 019205,**

Respondent.

PDJ 2015-9127

**COMPLAINT**

[State Bar Nos. 14-2877, 15-0545]

Complaint is made against Respondent as follows:

**GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

1. At all times relevant, Respondent was a lawyer licensed to practice law in the state of Arizona having been first admitted to practice in Arizona on March 23, 1999.

**COUNT ONE (File no. 14-2877/Marshall)**

2. Respondent, a criminal defense attorney, was appointed to represent Clayton Reszel (Defendant). Defendant was charged with two counts of aggravated DUI, class 4 felonies in CR 2014-117174. The State initially offered a plea to one count of endangerment, a class 6 undesignated felony, which could later be designated a misdemeanor, and one count of DUI, a class 1 misdemeanor. Defendant did not accept the offer.

3. In anticipation of a status conference scheduled for May 27, 2014, Deputy County Attorney Soo Chang staffed the case with her supervisor, Amy Diederich. Chang was told that due to a change in office policy, the endangerment count had to be designated a felony.

4. On May 27, 2014, Respondent and Chang met in the negotiation room in advance of the status conference. When Chang explained the change in office policy to Respondent, he became angry and asked to speak to Diederich.

5. When she entered the negotiation room, Respondent began yelling at Diederich that he was taking the original offer and that the State could not change it. Respondent continued to yell while Diederich tried to explain the reason for the change and that the State was not required to offer any plea agreement. Respondent accused the prosecutors of being unprofessional and unethical. He repeatedly called Diederich a "scumbag" and a "pig." Respondent was "screaming, literally screaming" while he was "pretty much face-to-face" with Diederich, who advised Respondent that she was happy to discuss the matter but that he needed to "calm down and discuss it in an adult way." Respondent asked for her name, which Diederich provided. In response, Respondent stated something to the effect of: "that's right, everyone hates you." Respondent also asked Chang if she really wanted to "work for someone like that."

6. Diederich reiterated to Respondent that if he did not want to have "a constructive conversation about the case, [she] was going to leave." When Diederich asked about his intentions, Respondent stated he was going to affirm the preliminary hearing and "stormed out of the room."

7. Respondent knew that the State wanted to conduct a *Donald* hearing at that time. However, Respondent affirmed the preliminary hearing date without calling the case on the record, which prevented the Court from conducting the *Donald* hearing regarding the plea offer. Defendant was indicted the next day.

8. After Respondent left the negotiation room, several attorneys approached Diederich and commented on "how ridiculous and inappropriate" the exchange had been. Diederich describes Respondent's conduct as "fairly regular behavior for him."

9. Attorney Tyler Harrison later emailed Diederich regarding the incident, which he observed. Harrison observed Respondent "yelling" at Diederich, "calling [her] names," and yelling in a voice loud enough for everyone in the room to hear that everyone "hates" her. He further recalled that Respondent "got in her face," was "stomping around," and "parading to make a show."

10. On July 25, 2014, Defendant was allowed to plead guilty according to the terms of the original plea offer.

11. In another matter, Respondent disparaged a deputy county attorney in pleadings after she pointed out a legal error made by Respondent in relying on an out-of-date rule. *In Voris v. Hon. Mark Anderson*, LC2011-000117, Respondent filed a "Response to State's Motion to Strike" in which he called the State's motion "petulant and truculent." He opined that the author had "essayed a ham-fisted apercu." He noted that "[a] nimble writer, of course, avoids such gaucheries." He wondered "what kind of mind suspects such chicanery on a motion to dismiss without prejudice." He criticized the State's attorney for failing to recognize that

"[a]s any first year law student learns, conjunction requires both sides of the conjunct to obtain." In an earlier pleading, Respondent pondered whether a criminalist was unavailable because she "ha[d] plans to get her nails done."

12. By engaging in the misconduct described above, Respondent violated several ethical rules including, but not limited to, the following ethical rules.

13. ER 4.4(a) [Respect for Rights of Others] In representing a client, a lawyer shall not use means that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden any other person.

14. ER 8.4(d) [Misconduct] It is professional misconduct for lawyer to engage in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice.

15. Rule 41(g) The duties and obligations of members shall be to avoid engaging in unprofessional conduct. Rule 31(a)(2)(E) defines unprofessional conduct as substantial or repeated violations of the Oath of Admission to the Bar or the Lawyer's Creed of Professionalism of the State Bar of Arizona.

**COUNT TWO (File no. 15-0545/Judicial Referral)**

16. On or about July 23, 2013, Respondent was involved in a two-car automobile accident and was arrested by police after leaving the scene.

17. Respondent was found to have a B.A.C. of .134 after the accident.

18. Respondent was charged in the Phoenix Municipal Court with 5 counts: Count I--A.R.S. 28-772 [failure to yield in an intersection]; Count II--28-664(a)(2) [duty on striking unattended vehicle]; Count III--28-1381(A)(1) [DUI]; Count IV--28-1381(A)(2) [DUI BAC over .08] and Count V--28-662 [Leaving the Scene of an accident].

19. On November 18, 2014, Respondent was convicted on Counts I, IV and V. Count II was dismissed and Respondent was found not guilty on Count III.

20. Respondent was ordered to serve 90 days in jail, with 60 days suspended. He was assessed various fines and ordered to complete 30 hours of community restitution. The community restitution was ordered because this was Respondent's second DUI in the past 7 years.

21. On September 26, 2008, Respondent was arrested with a BAC of .138 and later convicted of misdemeanor DUI. The SBA screened Respondent for this conviction in Case No. 09-2282 and he was placed on probation for one (1) year and ordered to undergo a Member Assistance Program assessment.

22. By engaging in the misconduct described above, Respondent violated several ethical rules including, but not limited to the following ethical rules.

23. ER 8.4(b) [Misconduct] It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects.

24. Rule 54(g) [Conviction of a Crime] A lawyer shall be disciplined as the facts warrant upon conviction of a misdemeanor involving a serious crime or of any felony.

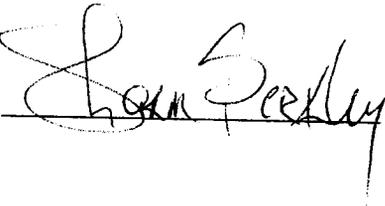
**DATED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

**STATE BAR OF ARIZONA**



Stacy L. Shuman  
Bar Counsel - Litigation

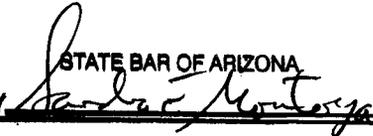
Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of  
the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge  
of the Supreme Court of Arizona  
this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2015.

by: 

**FILED**

JUL 27 2015

STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

BY 

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

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

**JEFFERY C. MEHRENS  
Bar No. 019205**

Respondent.

No. 14-2877

**PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER**

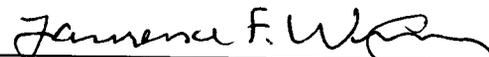
The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") reviewed this matter on July 10, 2015, pursuant to Rules 50 and 55, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation.

By a vote of 8-0-1<sup>1</sup>, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 14-2877.

**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 27 day of July, 2015.



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

<sup>1</sup> Committee member Ben Harrison did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, with:

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

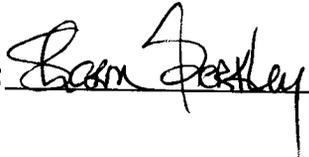
Copy mailed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, to:

Denise M. Quinterri  
The Law Office of Denise M. Quinterri PLLC  
5401 FM 1626, Suite 170-423  
Kyle, Texas 78640-6043  
Respondent's Counsel

Copy emailed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, 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](mailto:ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov)

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager  
State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266  
E-mail: [LRO@staff.azbar.org](mailto:LRO@staff.azbar.org)

by: 

**FILED**

JUL 27 2015

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

BY

STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

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

**JEFFERY C. MEHRENS  
Bar No. 019205**

Respondent.

No. 15-0545

**PROBABLE CAUSE ORDER**

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By a vote of 8-0-1<sup>1</sup>, the Committee finds probable cause exists to file a complaint against Respondent in File No. 15-0545.

**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 27 day of July, 2015.

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

<sup>1</sup> Committee member Ben Harrison did not participate in this matter.

Original filed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, with:

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

Copy mailed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, to:

Denise M. Quinterri  
The Law Office of Denise M. Quinterri PLLC  
5401 FM 1626, Suite 170-423  
Kyle, Texas 78640-6043  
Respondent's Counsel

Copy emailed this 28<sup>th</sup> day  
of July, 2015, 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](mailto:ProbableCauseComm@courts.az.gov)

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager  
State Bar of Arizona  
4201 N. 24<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266  
E-mail: [LRO@staff.azbar.org](mailto:LRO@staff.azbar.org)

by: 