

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

IN THE MATTER OF GERALD G. EAGLEBURGER, STATE BAR CARD NO. 06333000

CAUSE NO. 62035

## PETITION FOR RECIPROCAL DISCIPLINE

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### TO THE BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS:

Petitioner, the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, (hereinafter called "Petitioner"), brings this action against Respondent, Gerald G. Eagleburger, (hereinafter called "Respondent"), showing as follows:

1. This action is commenced by Petitioner pursuant to Part IX of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. Petitioner is also providing Respondent a copy of Section 7 of this Board's Internal Procedural Rules, relating to Reciprocal Discipline Matters.

2. Respondent is a member of the State Bar of Texas and is licensed but not currently authorized to practice law in Texas. Respondent may be served with a true and correct copy of this Petition for Reciprocal Discipline at Gerald G. Eagleburger, 11201 N. Tatum Blvd., Suite 300, Phoenix, Arizona 85028.

3. On or about November 16, 2018, an Agreement for Discipline by Consent (Exhibit 1) was entered Before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a case styled: *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695*, Respondent, in Case No. PDJ-2018-9108, [State Bar File No. 16-1288].

4. On or about November 19, 2018, the State Bar's Notice of Errata Re: Agreement for Discipline by Consent (Exhibit 2) was entered Before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a case styled: *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695*, Respondent, in Case No. PDJ-2018-9108, [State Bar No. 16-1288].

5. On or about December 7, 2018, the Decision Accepting Discipline by Consent (Exhibit 3) was entered Before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a case styled: *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695*, Respondent, in Case No. PDJ-2018-9108, [State Bar No. 16-1288].

6. On or about December 7, 2018, a Final Judgment and Order (Exhibit 4) was entered Before the Presiding Disciplinary Judge in a case styled: *In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695*, Respondent, in Case No. PDJ-2018-9108, [State Bar No. 16-1288], that states in pertinent part as follows:

... IT IS ORDERED Respondent, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695, is reprimanded for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents effective the date of this order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED placing Mr. Eagleburger on probation for a period of one (1) year, with the terms set forth below . . .

4. The Decision Accepting Discipline by Consent summarizes the Agreement for Discipline by Consent as follows: Mr. Eagleburger admits to violating Rule 42, specifically ERs 1.3 (diligence), 1.7(a) (conflict of interest/current clients), 1.8(c) (conflict of interest/current clients/special rules), 5.3(b) and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). The parties stipulate to a sanction of reprimand and one year of probation. The sole term of probation requires the completion of 6 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) in the area of conflict of interest and supervision of non-lawyer assistants. These hours are in addition to the annual mandatory CLE required. Mr. Eagleburger also agrees to pay costs in the amount of \$1,200.00 within 30 days from the date of this order. For purposes of the Agreement, the parties stipulate Mr. Eagleburger was retained in 2008 to draft a will for his client that included the distribution of property. Mr. Eagleburger then negligently failed to ensure the will was properly prepared. Mr. Eagleburger was named as the personal representative and also identified as a residual beneficiary. He also improperly filed for informal probate. The parties agree Mr. Eagleburger negligently violated his duties to his client and his misconduct caused potential and actual harm to the client, his client's children, and the legal system.

5. Copies of the Agreement for Discipline by Agreement, State Bar's Notice of Errata Re: Agreement for Discipline by Consent, Decision Accepting Discipline by Consent, and Final Judgment and Order are attached hereto as Petitioner's Exhibits 1 through 4, and made a part hereof for all intents and purposes as if the same was copied verbatim herein. Petitioner expects to introduce certified copies of Exhibits 1 through 4 at the time of hearing of this cause.

6. Petitioner prays that, pursuant to Rule 9.02, Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure, that this Board issue notice to Respondent, containing a copy of this Petition with exhibits, and an order directing Respondent to show cause within thirty (30) days from the date of the mailing of the notice, why the imposition of the identical discipline in this state would be unwarranted. Petitioner further prays that upon trial of this matter that this Board enters a judgment imposing discipline identical with that imposed by the State Bar of Arizona Presiding Disciplinary Judge and that Petitioner have such other and further relief to which it may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Seana Willing Chief Disciplinary Counsel

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Jenny Kim Bar Card No. 24091883

ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that upon receipt of the Order to Show Cause from the Board of Disciplinary

Appeals, I will serve a copy of this Petition for Reciprocal Discipline and the Order to Show Cause

on Gerald G. Eagleburger by personal service.

Gerald G. Eagleburger 11201 N. Tatum Blvd., Suite 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028

Jenny Kim

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# INTERNAL PROCEDURAL RULES

# BOARD OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS

Current through June 21, 2018

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# INTERNAL PROCEDURAL RULES

Board of Disciplinary Appeals

#### Current through June 21, 2018

#### I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### **Rule 1.01. Definitions**

(a) "BODA" is the Board of Disciplinary Appeals.

(b) "Chair" is the member elected by BODA to serve as chair or, in the Chair's absence, the member elected by BODA to serve as vice-chair.

(c) "Classification" is the determination by the CDC under TRDP 2.10 or by BODA under TRDP 7.08(C) whether a grievance constitutes a "complaint" or an "inquiry."

(d) "BODA Clerk" is the executive director of BODA or other person appointed by BODA to assume all duties normally performed by the clerk of a court.

(e) "CDC" is the Chief Disciplinary Counsel for the State Bar of Texas and his or her assistants.

(f) "Commission" is the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, a permanent committee of the State Bar of Texas.

(g) "Executive Director" is the executive director of BODA.

(h) "Panel" is any three-member grouping of BODA under TRDP 7.05.

(i) "Party" is a Complainant, a Respondent, or the Commission.

(j) "TDRPC" is the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct.

(k) "TRAP" is the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure.

(1) "TRCP" is the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

(m) "TRDP" is the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure.

(n) "TRE" is the Texas Rules of Evidence.

#### **Rule 1.02. General Powers**

Under TRDP 7.08, BODA has and may exercise all the powers of either a trial court or an appellate court, as the case may be, in hearing and determining disciplinary proceedings. But TRDP 15.01 [17.01] applies to the enforcement of a judgment of BODA.

#### Rule 1.03. Additional Rules in Disciplinary Matters

Except as varied by these rules and to the extent applicable, the TRCP, TRAP, and TRE apply to all disciplinary matters before BODA, except for appeals from classification decisions, which are governed by TRDP 2.10 and by Section 3 of these rules.

#### **Rule 1.04. Appointment of Panels**

(a) BODA may consider any matter or motion by panel,

except as specified in (b). The Chair may delegate to the Executive Director the duty to appoint a panel for any BODA action. Decisions are made by a majority vote of the panel; however, any panel member may refer a matter for consideration by BODA sitting en banc. Nothing in these rules gives a party the right to be heard by BODA sitting en banc.

(b) Any disciplinary matter naming a BODA member as Respondent must be considered by BODA sitting en banc. A disciplinary matter naming a BODA staff member as Respondent need not be heard en banc.

# Rule 1.05. Filing of Pleadings, Motions, and Other Papers

(a) **Electronic Filing.** All documents must be filed electronically. Unrepresented persons or those without the means to file electronically may electronically file documents, but it is not required.

(1) Email Address. The email address of an attorney or an unrepresented party who electronically files a document must be included on the document.

(2) Timely Filing. Documents are filed electronically by emailing the document to the BODA Clerk at the email address designated by BODA for that purpose. A document filed by email will be considered filed the day that the email is sent. The date sent is the date shown for the message in the inbox of the email account designated for receiving filings. If a document is sent after 5:00 p.m. or on a weekend or holiday officially observed by the State of Texas, it is considered filed the next business day.

(3) It is the responsibility of the party filing a document by email to obtain the correct email address for BODA and to confirm that the document was received by BODA in legible form. Any document that is illegible or that cannot be opened as part of an email attachment will not be considered filed. If a document is untimely due to a technical failure or a system outage, the filing party may seek appropriate relief from BODA.

(4) Exceptions.

(i) An appeal to BODA of a decision by the CDC to classify a grievance as an inquiry is not required to be filed electronically.

(ii) The following documents must not be filed electronically:

a) documents that are filed under seal or subject to a pending motion to seal; and

b) documents to which access is otherwise restricted by court order.

(iii) For good cause, BODA may permit a party to file other documents in paper form in a particular case.

(5) Format. An electronically filed document must:

(i) be in text-searchable portable document format (PDF);

(ii) be directly converted to PDF rather than scanned, if possible; and

(iii) not be locked.

(b) A paper will not be deemed filed if it is sent to an individual BODA member or to another address other than the address designated by BODA under Rule 1.05(a)(2).

(c) **Signing.** Each brief, motion, or other paper filed must be signed by at least one attorney for the party or by the party pro se and must give the State Bar of Texas card number, mailing address, telephone number, email address, and fax number, if any, of each attorney whose name is signed or of the party (if applicable). A document is considered signed if the document includes:

(1) an "/s/" and name typed in the space where the signature would otherwise appear, unless the document is notarized or sworn; or

(2) an electronic image or scanned image of the signature.

(d) **Paper Copies.** Unless required by BODA, a party need not file a paper copy of an electronically filed document.

(e) **Service.** Copies of all documents filed by any party other than the record filed by the evidentiary panel clerk or the court reporter must, at or before the time of filing, be served on all other parties as required and authorized by the TRAP.

#### **Rule 1.06. Service of Petition**

In any disciplinary proceeding before BODA initiated by service of a petition on the Respondent, the petition must be served by personal service; by certified mail with return receipt requested; or, if permitted by BODA, in any other manner that is authorized by the TRCP and reasonably calculated under all the circumstances to apprise the Respondent of the proceeding and to give him or her reasonable time to appear and answer. To establish service by certified mail, the return receipt must contain the Respondent's signature.

#### Rule 1.07. Hearing Setting and Notice

(a) **Original Petitions.** In any kind of case initiated by the CDC's filing a petition or motion with BODA, the CDC may contact the BODA Clerk for the next regularly available hearing date before filing the original petition. If a hearing is set before the petition is filed, the petition must state the date, time, and place of the hearing. Except in the case of a petition to revoke probation under TRDP 2.23 [2.22], the hearing date must be at least 30 days from the date that the petition is served on the Respondent.

(b) **Expedited Settings.** If a party desires a hearing on a matter on a date earlier than the next regularly available BODA hearing date, the party may request an expedited setting in a written motion setting out the reasons for the

request. Unless the parties agree otherwise, and except in the case of a petition to revoke probation under TRDP 2.23 [2.22], the expedited hearing setting must be at least 30 days from the date of service of the petition, motion, or other pleading. BODA has the sole discretion to grant or deny a request for an expedited hearing date.

(c) **Setting Notices.** BODA must notify the parties of any hearing date that is not noticed in an original petition or motion.

(d) **Announcement Docket.** Attorneys and parties appearing before BODA must confirm their presence and present any questions regarding procedure to the BODA Clerk in the courtroom immediately prior to the time docket call is scheduled to begin. Each party with a matter on the docket must appear at the docket call to give an announcement of readiness, to give a time estimate for the hearing, and to present any preliminary motions or matters. Immediately following the docket call, the Chair will set and announce the order of cases to be heard.

#### Rule 1.08. Time to Answer

The Respondent may file an answer at any time, except where expressly provided otherwise by these rules or the TRDP, or when an answer date has been set by prior order of BODA. BODA may, but is not required to, consider an answer filed the day of the hearing.

#### Rule 1.09. Pretrial Procedure

#### (a) Motions.

(1) Generally. To request an order or other relief, a party must file a motion supported by sufficient cause with proof of service on all other parties. The motion must state with particularity the grounds on which it is based and set forth the relief sought. All supporting briefs, affidavits, or other documents must be served and filed with the motion. A party may file a response to a motion at any time before BODA rules on the motion or by any deadline set by BODA. Unless otherwise required by these rules or the TRDP, the form of a motion must comply with the TRCP or the TRAP.

(2) For Extension of Time. All motions for extension of time in any matter before BODA must be in writing, comply with (a)(1), and specify the following:

(i) if applicable, the date of notice of decision of the evidentiary panel, together with the number and style of the case;

(ii) if an appeal has been perfected, the date when the appeal was perfected;

(iii) the original deadline for filing the item in question;

(iv) the length of time requested for the extension;

(v) the number of extensions of time that have been granted previously regarding the item in question; and

(vi) the facts relied on to reasonably explain the need for an extension.

(b) **Pretrial Scheduling Conference.** Any party may request a pretrial scheduling conference, or BODA on its own motion may require a pretrial scheduling conference.

(c) **Trial Briefs.** In any disciplinary proceeding before BODA, except with leave, all trial briefs and memoranda must be filed with the BODA Clerk no later than ten days before the day of the hearing.

(d) Hearing Exhibits, Witness Lists, and Exhibits Tendered for Argument. A party may file a witness list, exhibit, or any other document to be used at a hearing or oral argument before the hearing or argument. A party must bring to the hearing an original and 12 copies of any document that was not filed at least one business day before the hearing. The original and copies must be:

(1) marked;

(2) indexed with the title or description of the item offered as an exhibit; and

(3) if voluminous, bound to lie flat when open and tabbed in accordance with the index.

All documents must be marked and provided to the opposing party before the hearing or argument begins.

#### **Rule 1.10. Decisions**

(a) **Notice of Decisions.** The BODA Clerk must give notice of all decisions and opinions to the parties or their attorneys of record.

(b) **Publication of Decisions.** BODA must report judgments or orders of public discipline:

(1) as required by the TRDP; and

(2) on its website for a period of at least ten years following the date of the disciplinary judgment or order.

(c) **Abstracts of Classification Appeals.** BODA may, in its discretion, prepare an abstract of a classification appeal for a public reporting service.

#### Rule 1.11. Board of Disciplinary Appeals Opinions

(a) BODA may render judgment in any disciplinary matter with or without written opinion. In accordance with TRDP 6.06, all written opinions of BODA are open to the public and must be made available to the public reporting services, print or electronic, for publishing. A majority of the members who participate in considering the disciplinary matter must determine if an opinion will be written. The names of the participating members must be noted on all written opinions of BODA.

(b) Only a BODA member who participated in the decision of a disciplinary matter may file or join in a written opinion concurring in or dissenting from the judgment of BODA. For purposes of this rule, in hearings in which evidence is taken, no member may participate in

the decision unless that member was present at the hearing. In all other proceedings, no member may participate unless that member has reviewed the record. Any member of BODA may file a written opinion in connection with the denial of a hearing or rehearing en banc.

(c) A BODA determination in an appeal from a grievance classification decision under TRDP 2.10 is not a judgment for purposes of this rule and may be issued without a written opinion.

#### Rule 1.12. BODA Work Product and Drafts

A document or record of any nature—regardless of its form, characteristics, or means of transmission—that is created or produced in connection with or related to BODA's adjudicative decision-making process is not subject to disclosure or discovery. This includes documents prepared by any BODA member, BODA staff, or any other person acting on behalf of or at the direction of BODA.

#### **Rule 1.13. Record Retention**

Records of appeals from classification decisions must be retained by the BODA Clerk for a period of at least three years from the date of disposition. Records of other disciplinary matters must be retained for a period of at least five years from the date of final judgment, or for at least one year after the date a suspension or disbarment ends, whichever is later. For purposes of this rule, a record is any document, paper, letter, map, book, tape, photograph, film, recording, or other material filed with BODA, regardless of its form, characteristics, or means of transmission.

#### Rule 1.14. Costs of Reproduction of Records

The BODA Clerk may charge a reasonable amount for the reproduction of nonconfidential records filed with BODA. The fee must be paid in advance to the BODA Clerk.

#### **Rule 1.15. Publication of These Rules**

These rules will be published as part of the TDRPC and TRDP.

#### **II. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

# Rule 2.01. Representing or Counseling Parties in Disciplinary Matters and Legal Malpractice Cases

(a) A current member of BODA must not represent a party or testify voluntarily in a disciplinary action or proceeding. Any BODA member who is subpoenaed or otherwise compelled to appear at a disciplinary action or proceeding, including at a deposition, must promptly notify the BODA Chair.

(b) A current BODA member must not serve as an expert witness on the TDRPC.

(c) A BODA member may represent a party in a legal malpractice case, provided that he or she is later recused in accordance with these rules from any proceeding before BODA arising out of the same facts.

#### Rule 2.02. Confidentiality

(a) BODA deliberations are confidential, must not be disclosed by BODA members or staff, and are not subject to disclosure or discovery.

(b) Classification appeals, appeals from evidentiary judgments of private reprimand, appeals from an evidentiary judgment dismissing a case, interlocutory appeals or any interim proceedings from an ongoing evidentiary case, and disability cases are confidential under the TRDP. BODA must maintain all records associated with these cases as confidential, subject to disclosure only as provided in the TRDP and these rules.

(c) If a member of BODA is subpoenaed or otherwise compelled by law to testify in any proceeding, the member must not disclose a matter that was discussed in conference in connection with a disciplinary case unless the member is required to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction

# Rule 2.03. Disqualification and Recusal of BODA Members

(a) BODA members are subject to disqualification and recusal as provided in TRCP 18b.

(b) BODA members may, in addition to recusals under (a), voluntarily recuse themselves from any discussion and voting for any reason. The reasons that a BODA member is recused from a case are not subject to discovery.

(c) These rules do not disqualify a lawyer who is a member of, or associated with, the law firm of a BODA member from serving on a grievance committee or representing a party in a disciplinary proceeding or legal malpractice case. But a BODA member must recuse himor herself from any matter in which a lawyer who is a member of, or associated with, the BODA member's firm is a party or represents a party.

#### **III. CLASSIFICATION APPEALS**

#### Rule 3.01. Notice of Right to Appeal

(a) If a grievance filed by the Complainant under TRDP 2.10 is classified as an inquiry, the CDC must notify the Complainant of his or her right to appeal as set out in TRDP 2.10 or another applicable rule.

(b) To facilitate the potential filing of an appeal of a grievance classified as an inquiry, the CDC must send the Complainant an appeal notice form, approved by BODA, with the classification disposition. The form must include the docket number of the matter; the deadline for appealing; and information for mailing, faxing, or emailing the appeal notice form to BODA. The appeal notice form must be available in English and Spanish.

#### Rule 3.02. Record on Appeal

BODA must only consider documents that were filed with the CDC prior to the classification decision. When a notice of appeal from a classification decision has been filed, the CDC must forward to BODA a copy of the grievance and all supporting documentation. If the appeal challenges the classification of an amended grievance, the CDC must also send BODA a copy of the initial grievance, unless it has been destroyed.

# IV. APPEALS FROM EVIDENTIARY PANEL HEARINGS

#### **Rule 4.01. Perfecting Appeal**

(a) **Appellate Timetable.** The date that the evidentiary judgment is signed starts the appellate timetable under this section. To make TRDP 2.21 [2.20] consistent with this requirement, the date that the judgment is signed is the "date of notice" under Rule 2.21 [2.20].

(b) **Notification of the Evidentiary Judgment.** The clerk of the evidentiary panel must notify the parties of the judgment as set out in TRDP 2.21 [2.20].

(1) The evidentiary panel clerk must notify the Commission and the Respondent in writing of the judgment. The notice must contain a clear statement that any appeal of the judgment must be filed with BODA within 30 days of the date that the judgment was signed. The notice must include a copy of the judgment rendered.

(2) The evidentiary panel clerk must notify the Complainant that a judgment has been rendered and provide a copy of the judgment, unless the evidentiary panel dismissed the case or imposed a private reprimand. In the case of a dismissal or private reprimand, the evidentiary panel clerk must notify the Complainant of the decision and that the contents of the judgment are confidential. Under TRDP 2.16, no additional information regarding the contents of a judgment of dismissal or private reprimand may be disclosed to the Complainant.

(c) Filing Notice of Appeal. An appeal is perfected when a written notice of appeal is filed with BODA. If a notice of appeal and any other accompanying documents are mistakenly filed with the evidentiary panel clerk, the notice is deemed to have been filed the same day with BODA, and the evidentiary panel clerk must immediately send the BODA Clerk a copy of the notice and any accompanying documents.

(d) **Time to File.** In accordance with TRDP 2.24 [2.23], the notice of appeal must be filed within 30 days after the date the judgment is signed. In the event a motion for new trial or motion to modify the judgment is timely filed with the evidentiary panel, the notice of appeal must be filed with BODA within 90 days from the date the judgment is signed.

(e) **Extension of Time.** A motion for an extension of time to file the notice of appeal must be filed no later than 15 days after the last day allowed for filing the notice of appeal. The motion must comply with Rule 1.09.

#### Rule 4.02. Record on Appeal

(a) **Contents.** The record on appeal consists of the evidentiary panel clerk's record and, where necessary to the appeal, a reporter's record of the evidentiary panel hearing.

(b) **Stipulation as to Record.** The parties may designate parts of the clerk's record and the reporter's record to be included in the record on appeal by written stipulation filed with the clerk of the evidentiary panel.

#### (c) Responsibility for Filing Record.

(1) Clerk's Record.

(i) After receiving notice that an appeal has been filed, the clerk of the evidentiary panel is responsible for preparing, certifying, and timely filing the clerk's record.

(ii) Unless the parties stipulate otherwise, the clerk's record on appeal must contain the items listed in TRAP 34.5(a) and any other paper on file with the evidentiary panel, including the election letter, all pleadings on which the hearing was held, the docket sheet, the evidentiary panel's charge, any findings of fact and conclusions of law, all other pleadings, the judgment or other orders appealed from, the notice of decision sent to each party, any postsubmission pleadings and briefs, and the notice of appeal.

(iii) If the clerk of the evidentiary panel is unable for any reason to prepare and transmit the clerk's record by the due date, he or she must promptly notify BODA and the parties, explain why the clerk's record cannot be timely filed, and give the date by which he or she expects the clerk's record to be filed.

(2) Reporter's Record.

(i) The court reporter for the evidentiary panel is responsible for timely filing the reporter's record if:

a) a notice of appeal has been filed;

b) a party has requested that all or part of the reporter's record be prepared; and

c) the party requesting all or part of the reporter's record has paid the reporter's fee or has made satisfactory arrangements with the reporter.

(ii) If the court reporter is unable for any reason to prepare and transmit the reporter's record by the due date, he or she must promptly notify BODA and the parties, explain the reasons why the reporter's record cannot be timely filed, and give the date by which he or she expects the reporter's record to be filed.

#### (d) Preparation of Clerk's Record.

(1) To prepare the clerk's record, the evidentiary panel clerk must:

(i) gather the documents designated by the parties'

written stipulation or, if no stipulation was filed, the documents required under (c)(1)(ii);

(ii) start each document on a new page;

(iii) include the date of filing on each document;

(iv) arrange the documents in chronological order, either by the date of filing or the date of occurrence;

(v) number the pages of the clerk's record in the manner required by (d)(2);

(vi) prepare and include, after the front cover of the clerk's record, a detailed table of contents that complies with (d)(3); and

(vii) certify the clerk's record.

(2) The clerk must start the page numbering on the front cover of the first volume of the clerk's record and continue to number all pages consecutively—including the front and back covers, tables of contents, certification page, and separator pages, if any—until the final page of the clerk's record, without regard for the number of volumes in the clerk's record, and place each page number at the bottom of each page.

(3) The table of contents must:

(i) identify each document in the entire record (including sealed documents); the date each document was filed; and, except for sealed documents, the page on which each document begins;

(ii) be double-spaced;

(iii) conform to the order in which documents appear in the clerk's record, rather than in alphabetical order;

(iv) contain bookmarks linking each description in the table of contents (except for descriptions of sealed documents) to the page on which the document begins; and

(v) if the record consists of multiple volumes, indicate the page on which each volume begins.

(e) **Electronic Filing of the Clerk's Record.** The evidentiary panel clerk must file the record electronically. When filing a clerk's record in electronic form, the evidentiary panel clerk must:

(1) file each computer file in text-searchable Portable Document Format (PDF);

(2) create electronic bookmarks to mark the first page of each document in the clerk's record;

(3) limit the size of each computer file to 100 MB or less, if possible; and

(4) directly convert, rather than scan, the record to PDF, if possible.

#### (f) Preparation of the Reporter's Record.

(1) The appellant, at or before the time prescribed for

perfecting the appeal, must make a written request for the reporter's record to the court reporter for the evidentiary panel. The request must designate the portion of the evidence and other proceedings to be included. A copy of the request must be filed with the evidentiary panel and BODA and must be served on the appellee. The reporter's record must be certified by the court reporter for the evidentiary panel.

(2) The court reporter or recorder must prepare and file the reporter's record in accordance with TRAP 34.6 and 35 and the Uniform Format Manual for Texas Reporters' Records.

(3) The court reporter or recorder must file the reporter's record in an electronic format by emailing the document to the email address designated by BODA for that purpose.

(4) The court reporter or recorder must include either a scanned image of any required signature or "/s/" and name typed in the space where the signature would otherwise

(6<sup>1</sup>) In exhibit volumes, the court reporter or recorder must create bookmarks to mark the first page of each exhibit document.

(g) **Other Requests.** At any time before the clerk's record is prepared, or within ten days after service of a copy of appellant's request for the reporter's record, any party may file a written designation requesting that additional exhibits and portions of testimony be included in the record. The request must be filed with the evidentiary panel and BODA and must be served on the other party.

(h) **Inaccuracies or Defects.** If the clerk's record is found to be defective or inaccurate, the BODA Clerk must inform the clerk of the evidentiary panel of the defect or inaccuracy and instruct the clerk to make the correction. Any inaccuracies in the reporter's record may be corrected by agreement of the parties without the court reporter's recertification. Any dispute regarding the reporter's record that the parties are unable to resolve by agreement must be resolved by the evidentiary panel.

(i) **Appeal from Private Reprimand.** Under TRDP 2.16, in an appeal from a judgment of private reprimand, BODA must mark the record as confidential, remove the attorney's name from the case style, and take any other steps necessary to preserve the confidentiality of the private reprimand.

<sup>1</sup> So in original.

#### Rule 4.03. Time to File Record

(a) **Timetable.** The clerk's record and reporter's record must be filed within 60 days after the date the judgment is signed. If a motion for new trial or motion to modify the judgment is filed with the evidentiary panel, the clerk's record and the reporter's record must be filed within 120 days from the date the original judgment is signed, unless

a modified judgment is signed, in which case the clerk's record and the reporter's record must be filed within 60 days of the signing of the modified judgment. Failure to file either the clerk's record or the reporter's record on time does not affect BODA's jurisdiction, but may result in BODA's exercising its discretion to dismiss the appeal, affirm the judgment appealed from, disregard materials filed late, or apply presumptions against the appellant.

#### (b) If No Record Filed.

(1) If the clerk's record or reporter's record has not been timely filed, the BODA Clerk must send notice to the party responsible for filing it, stating that the record is late and requesting that the record be filed within 30 days. The BODA Clerk must send a copy of this notice to all the parties and the clerk of the evidentiary panel.

(2) If no reporter's record is filed due to appellant's fault, and if the clerk's record has been filed, BODA may, after first giving the appellant notice and a reasonable opportunity to cure, consider and decide those issues or points that do not require a reporter's record for a decision. BODA may do this if no reporter's record has been filed because:

(i) the appellant failed to request a reporter's record; or

(ii) the appellant failed to pay or make arrangements to pay the reporter's fee to prepare the reporter's record, and the appellant is not entitled to proceed without payment of costs.

(c) Extension of Time to File the Reporter's Record. When an extension of time is requested for filing the reporter's record, the facts relied on to reasonably explain the need for an extension must be supported by an affidavit of the court reporter. The affidavit must include the court reporter's estimate of the earliest date when the reporter's record will be available for filing.

(d) **Supplemental Record.** If anything material to either party is omitted from the clerk's record or reporter's record, BODA may, on written motion of a party or on its own motion, direct a supplemental record to be certified and transmitted by the clerk for the evidentiary panel or the court reporter for the evidentiary panel.

#### Rule 4.04. Copies of the Record

The record may not be withdrawn from the custody of the BODA Clerk. Any party may obtain a copy of the record or any designated part thereof by making a written request to the BODA Clerk and paying any charges for reproduction in advance.

#### Rule 4.05. Requisites of Briefs

(a) **Appellant's Filing Date.** Appellant's brief must be filed within 30 days after the clerk's record or the reporter's record is filed, whichever is later.

(b) Appellee's Filing Date. Appellee's brief must be filed

within 30 days after the appellant's brief is filed.

(c) Contents. Briefs must contain:

(1) a complete list of the names and addresses of all parties to the final decision and their counsel;

(2) a table of contents indicating the subject matter of each issue or point, or group of issues or points, with page references where the discussion of each point relied on may be found;

(3) an index of authorities arranged alphabetically and indicating the pages where the authorities are cited;

(4) a statement of the case containing a brief general statement of the nature of the cause or offense and the result;

(5) a statement, without argument, of the basis of BODA's jurisdiction;

(6) a statement of the issues presented for review or points of error on which the appeal is predicated;

(7) a statement of facts that is without argument, is supported by record references, and details the facts relating to the issues or points relied on in the appeal;

(8) the argument and authorities;

(9) conclusion and prayer for relief;

(10) a certificate of service; and

(11) an appendix of record excerpts pertinent to the issues presented for review.

(d) Length of Briefs; Contents Included and Excluded. In calculating the length of a document, every word and every part of the document, including headings, footnotes, and quotations, must be counted except the following: caption, identity of the parties and counsel, statement regarding oral argument, table of contents, index of authorities, statement of the case, statement of issues presented, statement of the jurisdiction, signature, proof of service, certificate of compliance, and appendix. Briefs must not exceed 15,000 words if computer-generated, and 50 pages if not, except on leave of BODA. A reply brief must not exceed 7,500 words if computer-generated, and 25 pages if not, except on leave of BODA. A computer generated document must include a certificate by counsel or the unrepresented party stating the number of words in the document. The person who signs the certification may rely on the word count of the computer program used to prepare the document.

(e) **Amendment or Supplementation.** BODA has discretion to grant leave to amend or supplement briefs.

(f) **Failure of the Appellant to File a Brief.** If the appellant fails to timely file a brief, BODA may:

(1) dismiss the appeal for want of prosecution, unless the appellant reasonably explains the failure, and the appellee is not significantly injured by the appellant's

failure to timely file a brief;

(2) decline to dismiss the appeal and make further orders within its discretion as it considers proper; or

(3) if an appellee's brief is filed, regard that brief as correctly presenting the case and affirm the evidentiary panel's judgment on that brief without examining the record.

#### **Rule 4.06. Oral Argument**

(a) **Request.** A party desiring oral argument must note the request on the front cover of the party's brief. A party's failure to timely request oral argument waives the party's right to argue. A party who has requested argument may later withdraw the request. But even if a party has waived oral argument, BODA may direct the party to appear and argue. If oral argument is granted, the clerk will notify the parties of the time and place for submission.

(b) **Right to Oral Argument.** A party who has filed a brief and who has timely requested oral argument may argue the case to BODA unless BODA, after examining the briefs, decides that oral argument is unnecessary for any of the following reasons:

(1) the appeal is frivolous;

(2) the dispositive issue or issues have been authoritatively decided;

(3) the facts and legal arguments are adequately presented in the briefs and record; or

(4) the decisional process would not be significantly aided by oral argument.

(c) **Time Allowed.** Each party will have 20 minutes to argue. BODA may, on the request of a party or on its own, extend or shorten the time allowed for oral argument. The appellant may reserve a portion of his or her allotted time for rebuttal.

#### Rule 4.07. Decision and Judgment

(a) Decision. BODA may do any of the following:

(1) affirm in whole or in part the decision of the evidentiary panel;

(2) modify the panel's findings and affirm the findings as modified;

(3) reverse in whole or in part the panel's findings and render the decision that the panel should have rendered; or

(4) reverse the panel's findings and remand the cause for further proceedings to be conducted by:

(i) the panel that entered the findings; or

(ii) a statewide grievance committee panel appointed by BODA and composed of members selected from the state bar districts other than the district from which the appeal was taken. (b) Mandate. In every appeal, the BODA Clerk must issue a mandate in accordance with BODA's judgment and send it to the evidentiary panel and to all the parties.

#### Rule 4.08. Appointment of Statewide Grievance Committee

If BODA remands a cause for further proceedings before a statewide grievance committee, the BODA Chair will appoint the statewide grievance committee in accordance with TRDP 2.27 [2.26]. The committee must consist of six members: four attorney members and two public members randomly selected from the current pool of grievance committee members. Two alternates, consisting of one attorney and one public member, must also be selected. BODA will appoint the initial chair who will serve until the members of the statewide grievance committee elect a chair of the committee at the first meeting. The BODA Clerk will notify the Respondent and the CDC that a committee has been appointed.

#### Rule 4.09. Involuntary Dismissal

Under the following circumstances and on any party's motion or on its own initiative after giving at least ten days' notice to all parties, BODA may dismiss the appeal or affirm the appealed judgment or order. Dismissal or affirmance may occur if the appeal is subject to dismissal:

(a) for want of jurisdiction;

(b) for want of prosecution; or

(c) because the appellant has failed to comply with a requirement of these rules, a court order, or a notice from the clerk requiring a response or other action within a specified time.

#### **V. PETITIONS TO REVOKE PROBATION**

#### Rule 5.01. Initiation and Service

(a) Before filing a motion to revoke the probation of an attorney who has been sanctioned, the CDC must contact the BODA Clerk to confirm whether the next regularly available hearing date will comply with the 30-day requirement of TRDP. The Chair may designate a three-member panel to hear the motion, if necessary, to meet the 30-day requirement of TRDP 2.23 [2.22].

(b) Upon filing the motion, the CDC must serve the Respondent with the motion and any supporting documents in accordance with TRDP 2.23 [2.22], the TRCP, and these rules. The CDC must notify BODA of the date that service is obtained on the Respondent.

#### Rule 5.02. Hearing

Within 30 days of service of the motion on the Respondent, BODA must docket and set the matter for a hearing and notify the parties of the time and place of the hearing. On a showing of good cause by a party or on its own motion, BODA may continue the case to a future hearing date as circumstances require.

#### VI. COMPULSORY DISCIPLINE

#### **Rule 6.01. Initiation of Proceeding**

Under TRDP 8.03, the CDC must file a petition for compulsory discipline with BODA and serve the Respondent in accordance with the TRDP and Rule 1.06 of these rules.

#### **Rule 6.02. Interlocutory Suspension**

(a) **Interlocutory Suspension.** In any compulsory proceeding under TRDP Part VIII in which BODA determines that the Respondent has been convicted of an Intentional Crime and that the criminal conviction is on direct appeal, BODA must suspend the Respondent's license to practice law by interlocutory order. In any compulsory case in which BODA has imposed an interlocutory order of suspension, BODA retains jurisdiction to render final judgment after the direct appeal of the criminal conviction is final. For purposes of rendering final judgment in a compulsory discipline case, the direct appeal of the criminal conviction is final when the appellate court issues its mandate.

(b) **Criminal Conviction Affirmed.** If the criminal conviction made the basis of a compulsory interlocutory suspension is affirmed and becomes final, the CDC must file a motion for final judgment that complies with TRDP 8.05.

(1) If the criminal sentence is fully probated or is an order of deferred adjudication, the motion for final judgment must contain notice of a hearing date. The motion will be set on BODA's next available hearing date.

(2) If the criminal sentence is not fully probated:

(i) BODA may proceed to decide the motion without a hearing if the attorney does not file a verified denial within ten days of service of the motion; or

(ii) BODA may set the motion for a hearing on the next available hearing date if the attorney timely files a verified denial.

(c) **Criminal Conviction Reversed.** If an appellate court issues a mandate reversing the criminal conviction while a Respondent is subject to an interlocutory suspension, the Respondent may file a motion to terminate the interlocutory suspension. The motion to terminate the interlocutory suspension must have certified copies of the decision and mandate of the reversing court attached. If the CDC does not file an opposition to the termination within ten days of being served with the motion, BODA may proceed to decide the motion without a hearing or set the matter for a hearing on its own motion. If the CDC timely opposes the motion, BODA must set the motion for a hearing on its next available hearing date. An order terminating an interlocutory order of suspension does not automatically reinstate a Respondent's license.

#### **VII. RECIPROCAL DISCIPLINE**

#### Rule 7.01. Initiation of Proceeding

To initiate an action for reciprocal discipline under TRDP Part IX, the CDC must file a petition with BODA and request an Order to Show Cause. The petition must request that the Respondent be disciplined in Texas and have attached to it any information concerning the disciplinary matter from the other jurisdiction, including a certified copy of the order or judgment rendered against the Respondent.

#### Rule 7.02. Order to Show Cause

When a petition is filed, the Chair immediately issues a show cause order and a hearing notice and forwards them to the CDC, who must serve the order and notice on the Respondent. The CDC must notify BODA of the date that service is obtained.

#### Rule 7.03. Attorney's Response

If the Respondent does not file an answer within 30 days of being served with the order and notice but thereafter appears at the hearing, BODA may, at the discretion of the Chair, receive testimony from the Respondent relating to the merits of the petition.

#### VIII. DISTRICT DISABILITY COMMITTEE HEARINGS

#### Rule 8.01. Appointment of District Disability Committee

(a) If the evidentiary panel of the grievance committee finds under TRDP 2.17(P)(2), or the CDC reasonably believes under TRDP 2.14(C), that a Respondent is suffering from a disability, the rules in this section will apply to the de novo proceeding before the District Disability Committee held under TRDP Part XII.

(b) Upon receiving an evidentiary panel's finding or the CDC's referral that an attorney is believed to be suffering from a disability, the BODA Chair must appoint a District Disability Committee in compliance with TRDP 12.02 and designate a chair. BODA will reimburse District Disability Committee members for reasonable expenses directly related to service on the District Disability Committee. The BODA Clerk must notify the CDC and the Respondent that a committee has been appointed and notify the Respondent where to locate the procedural rules governing disability proceedings.

(c) A Respondent who has been notified that a disability referral will be or has been made to BODA may, at any time, waive in writing the appointment of the District Disability Committee or the hearing before the District Disability Committee and enter into an agreed judgment of indefinite disability suspension, provided that the Respondent is competent to waive the hearing. If the Respondent is not represented, the waiver must include a statement affirming that the Respondent has been advised of the right to appointed counsel and waives that right as well. (d) All pleadings, motions, briefs, or other matters to be filed with the District Disability Committee must be filed with the BODA Clerk.

(e) Should any member of the District Disability Committee become unable to serve, the BODA Chair must appoint a substitute member.

#### Rule 8.02. Petition and Answer

(a) **Petition.** Upon being notified that the District Disability Committee has been appointed by BODA, the CDC must, within 20 days, file with the BODA Clerk and serve on the Respondent a copy of a petition for indefinite disability suspension. Service must comply with Rule 1.06.

(b) **Answer.** The Respondent must, within 30 days after service of the petition for indefinite disability suspension, file an answer with the BODA Clerk and serve a copy of the answer on the CDC.

(c) **Hearing Setting.** The BODA Clerk must set the final hearing as instructed by the chair of the District Disability Committee and send notice of the hearing to the parties.

#### Rule 8.03. Discovery

(a) **Limited Discovery.** The District Disability Committee may permit limited discovery. The party seeking discovery must file with the BODA Clerk a written request that makes a clear showing of good cause and substantial need and a proposed order. If the District Disability Committee authorizes discovery in a case, it must issue a written order. The order may impose limitations or deadlines on the discovery.

(b) **Physical or Mental Examinations.** On written motion by the Commission or on its own motion, the District Disability Committee may order the Respondent to submit to a physical or mental examination by a qualified healthcare or mental healthcare professional. Nothing in this rule limits the Respondent's right to an examination by a professional of his or her choice in addition to any exam ordered by the District Disability Committee.

(1) Motion. The Respondent must be given reasonable notice of the examination by written order specifying the name, address, and telephone number of the person conducting the examination.

(2) Report. The examining professional must file with the BODA Clerk a detailed, written report that includes the results of all tests performed and the professional's findings, diagnoses, and conclusions. The professional must send a copy of the report to the CDC and the Respondent.

(c) **Objections.** A party must make any objection to a request for discovery within 15 days of receiving the motion by filing a written objection with the BODA Clerk. BODA may decide any objection or contest to a discovery motion.

#### Rule 8.04. Ability to Compel Attendance

The Respondent and the CDC may confront and crossexamine witnesses at the hearing. Compulsory process to compel the attendance of witnesses by subpoena, enforceable by an order of a district court of proper jurisdiction, is available to the Respondent and the CDC as provided in TRCP 176.

#### Rule 8.05. Respondent's Right to Counsel

(a) The notice to the Respondent that a District Disability Committee has been appointed and the petition for indefinite disability suspension must state that the Respondent may request appointment of counsel by BODA to represent him or her at the disability hearing. BODA will reimburse appointed counsel for reasonable expenses directly related to representation of the Respondent.

(b) To receive appointed counsel under TRDP 12.02, the Respondent must file a written request with the BODA Clerk within 30 days of the date that Respondent is served with the petition for indefinite disability suspension. A late request must demonstrate good cause for the Respondent's failure to file a timely request.

#### Rule 8.06. Hearing

The party seeking to establish the disability must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the Respondent is suffering from a disability as defined in the TRDP. The chair of the District Disability Committee must admit all relevant evidence that is necessary for a fair and complete hearing. The TRE are advisory but not binding on the chair.

#### Rule 8.07. Notice of Decision

The District Disability Committee must certify its finding regarding disability to BODA, which will issue the final judgment in the matter.

#### Rule 8.08. Confidentiality

All proceedings before the District Disability Committee and BODA, if necessary, are closed to the public. All matters before the District Disability Committee are confidential and are not subject to disclosure or discovery, except as allowed by the TRDP or as may be required in the event of an appeal to the Supreme Court of Texas.

#### **IX. DISABILITY REINSTATEMENTS**

#### Rule 9.01. Petition for Reinstatement

(a) An attorney under an indefinite disability suspension may, at any time after he or she has been suspended, file a verified petition with BODA to have the suspension terminated and to be reinstated to the practice of law. The petitioner must serve a copy of the petition on the CDC in the manner required by TRDP 12.06. The TRCP apply to a reinstatement proceeding unless they conflict with these rules.

(b) The petition must include the information required by TRDP 12.06. If the judgment of disability suspension

contained terms or conditions relating to misconduct by the petitioner prior to the suspension, the petition must affirmatively demonstrate that those terms have been complied with or explain why they have not been satisfied. The petitioner has a duty to amend and keep current all information in the petition until the final hearing on the merits. Failure to do so may result in dismissal without notice.

(c) Disability reinstatement proceedings before BODA are not confidential; however, BODA may make all or any part of the record of the proceeding confidential.

#### Rule 9.02. Discovery

The discovery period is 60 days from the date that the petition for reinstatement is filed. The BODA Clerk will set the petition for a hearing on the first date available after the close of the discovery period and must notify the parties of the time and place of the hearing. BODA may continue the hearing for good cause shown.

#### **Rule 9.03. Physical or Mental Examinations**

(a) On written motion by the Commission or on its own, BODA may order the petitioner seeking reinstatement to submit to a physical or mental examination by a qualified healthcare or mental healthcare professional. The petitioner must be served with a copy of the motion and given at least seven days to respond. BODA may hold a hearing before ruling on the motion but is not required to do so.

(b) The petitioner must be given reasonable notice of the examination by written order specifying the name, address, and telephone number of the person conducting the examination.

(c) The examining professional must file a detailed, written report that includes the results of all tests performed and the professional's findings, diagnoses, and conclusions. The professional must send a copy of the report to the parties.

(d) If the petitioner fails to submit to an examination as ordered, BODA may dismiss the petition without notice.

(e) Nothing in this rule limits the petitioner's right to an examination by a professional of his or her choice in addition to any exam ordered by BODA.

#### Rule 9.04. Judgment

If, after hearing all the evidence, BODA determines that the petitioner is not eligible for reinstatement, BODA may, in its discretion, either enter an order denying the petition or direct that the petition be held in abeyance for a reasonable period of time until the petitioner provides additional proof as directed by BODA. The judgment may include other orders necessary to protect the public and the petitioner's potential clients.

#### X. APPEALS FROM BODA TO THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

#### Rule 10.01. Appeals to the Supreme Court

(a) A final decision by BODA, except a determination that a statement constitutes an inquiry or a complaint under TRDP 2.10, may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Texas. The clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas must docket an appeal from a decision by BODA in the same manner as a petition for review without fee.

(b) The appealing party must file the notice of appeal directly with the clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas within 14 days of receiving notice of a final determination by BODA. The record must be filed within 60 days after BODA's determination. The appealing party's brief is due 30 days after the record is filed, and the responding party's brief is due 30 days thereafter. The BODA Clerk must send the parties a notice of BODA's final decision that includes the information in this paragraph.

(c) An appeal to the Supreme Court is governed by TRDP 7.11 and the TRAP.

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original on file in this office. Certified this 28 day of Feb. 2019 **Disciplinary Clerk** Supreme Court of Arizona

James D. Lee, Bar No. 011586 Senior Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Telephone: (602) 340-7272 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

NOV 1 6 2018

G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695 The Eagleburger Law Firm 11201 North Tatum Blvd, Suite 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6064 Telephone: (602) 388-8866 Email: Greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

# **BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

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

G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER, Bar No. 002695,

Respondent.

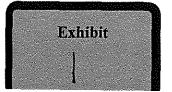
PDJ-2018-9108

AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT

[State Bar File No. 16-1288]

The State Bar of Arizona, through undersigned bar counsel, and Respondent,

G. Gregory Eagleburger, who has chosen not to seek the assistance of counsel,



hereby submit their Agreement for Discipline by Consent, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct. A probable cause order was entered on October 30, 2018, but no formal complaint has been filed in this matter. 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 complainants by email on November 2, 2018. Complainants have been notified of the opportunity to file a written objection to the agreement with the State Bar within five business days of bar counsel's notice. Copies of the complainants' objections, if any, have been or will be provided to the presiding disciplinary judge.

Respondent conditionally admits that his conduct, as set forth below, violated Rule 42, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., specifically ER 1.3, ER 1.7(a), ER 1.8(c), ER 5.3(b) and ER 8.4(d). Upon acceptance of this agreement, Respondent agrees to accept imposition of the following discipline: reprimand and one year of probation (additional continuing legal education). 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.

# FACTS

# **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

1. Respondent was licensed to practice law in Arizona on April 3, 1971.

## COUNT ONE (File No. 16-1288/Shepherd and Longenbaugh)

2. Respondent represented Joseph D. Yancey (Decedent<sup>2</sup>) in various matters for approximately 20 years, until he died on November 3, 2014. Decedent was married to Rondie Yancey, but divorced in 2003 (ostensibly to prevent any financial harm to Rondie due to one of Decedent's business relationships). Rondie and Decedent continued to live together post-divorce.

3. In 2008, Respondent and one of his nonlawyer assistants met with Decedent. During that meeting, Respondent directed his nonlawyer assistant to draft a will that included the distribution of property described by Decedent. Respondent failed to adequately supervise his assistant or review the printed version of the will

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Decedent" refers to Joseph Yancey both prior to and after his death.

to ensure that it was properly prepared. Respondent knew he was named as the personal representative (per Decedent's request), but failed to note that the will also identified him as a residual beneficiary (i.e., a beneficiary subject to other, priority distributions). Decedent signed the will on April 10, 2008. Employees at Sanders & Parks, the law firm with which Respondent was affiliated, witnessed and notarized the will.

4. Paragraph Two of the will stated:

TWO: I hereby incorporate by reference a list of specific bequests which by [sic] Personal Representative may find written in my hand and placed into my safe deposit box or attached to the original of this Will. Should such a list be found, I direct my Personal Representative to make the distributions listed herein as if the same were fully and completely detailed in this Will.

5. Paragraph Three of the will was a residual beneficiary paragraph, which

would become effective in the event the instructions in Paragraph Two could not be

carried out or did not dispose of all estate assets. Paragraphs Three and Four stated:

THREE: All property interests owned by me at my death, subject however to the provisions of paragraph TWO above, are hereby devised to G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER of Phoenix, Arizona.

FOUR: If G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER predeceases me, I devise all property interests which I own at my death, subject, however[,] to the provisions of paragraph TWO above, to JOE DENNIS YANCEY[,] II.

6. Immediately after Decedent signed the will, Respondent placed (a) a typed 2003 letter from Decedent (contrary to the term of the will); and (b) a 2008 document handwritten by Respondent (contrary to the term of the will) and signed by Decedent, in an envelope, which was placed in the file that Respondent maintained on Decedent's behalf. Neither the 2003 letter nor the 2008 note were attached to the will or placed in a safety deposit box, as required by the will.

Decedent owned assets not specifically listed in the 2003 letter or the
2008 document.

8. During or about March 2014, J. Dennis Yancey retained Arizona attorney Brian Longenbaugh to represent him regarding a claim by Rondie, Decedent's agent under a General Power of Attorney, that he had taken money and gold coins from Decedent while he was vulnerable and suffering from dementia. In an email message to Respondent dated March 21, 2014, Longenbaugh admitted that J. Dennis Yancey took the money and gold coins and asked Respondent to disclaim his residual beneficiary interest under the will.

9. On March 27, 2014, Respondent sent a letter to attorney Longenbaugh. In it, he rejected Longenbaugh's demand to disclaim his interest in the will unless Rondie was named Decedent's conservator (Decedent had not yet died) and J.

Dennis Yancey returned money and gold coins that belonged to Decedent. Respondent stated in part:

> With regard to your reference to ER 1.8(c)[,] your paraphrase is not exactly correct. It is only if the attorney "solicits" the gift and prepares the Will. I did not "solicit" anything. This is the way Joe wanted his Will drawn and he wanted it drawn that way for a very particular reason[,] which apparently is now proving to me that Joe had a vision of the future which was correct. Joe's Will may have created a deal of distrust of me by Dennis and his siblings[,] but not by Joe.

> I am not willing to disclaim my interest in Joe's eventual estate because if I did so Joe's wishes would not be carried out and Dennis would be entitled to the entire estate to the exclusion of his brother and sister. . . .

10. In a letter from Respondent to attorneys Longenbaugh and Denice

Shepherd dated July 22, 2014, Respondent again addressed the request to disclaim

his residual beneficiary interest in the will. The July 22 letter stated in part:

As far as declining my position as beneficiary under [Decedent]'s Will, unless we resolve the matters as to possession and control of all of [Decedent]'s assets, I will not do that. [Decedent] made me the beneficiary for a very good reason and I know what he wants done with whatever assets he owns at his death.

If I disclaimed my position I would violate my duties to [Decedent,] and Dennis would be the sole beneficiary who would not have to share with Lisa and Craig.

11. Decedent died on November 3, 2014. Respondent and attorneys

Longenbaugh and Shepherd immediately began discussing a probate proceeding to

address Decedent's estate.

12. On November 13, 2014, Respondent filed an *Application for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative* ("*Application*"), and attempted to admit the will he drafted, which named him as personal representative and a potential residual beneficiary (*In the Matter of the Estate of Joseph D. Yancey*, Pima County Superior Court No. PB2014-1243) ("the probate case"). He filed the probate case because he was designated as the personal representative in Decedent's will and in an effort to recover assets that J. Dennis Yancey had allegedly inappropriately taken.

13. Attorney Shepherd filed an Objection to Application for Informal Probate and Appointment of Personal Representative on Lisa Omstead's behalf (Lisa Omstead was one of Decedent's three children).

14. Respondent did not contest the objection to the informal probate proceeding. He discontinued his efforts to enforce the terms of the will when he learned that Decedent's three children agreed to share the estate equally in an intestate probate proceeding (which he claimed would accomplish Decedent's wish that each of his three children receive one-third of his estate).

15. On November 24, 2014, the Maricopa County Superior Court Probate Registrar declined Respondent's *Application*, noting that formal probate proceedings were required due to Lisa Omstead's objection.

16. On January 20, 2015, attorney Shepherd filed a *Petition for Formal Probate* on Lisa Omstead's behalf in the probate case.

17. On April 7, 2015, Pima County Superior Court Judge Peter Hochuli entered an order in the probate case finding the April 10, 2008 will invalid and appointing Lisa as personal representative. That order stated in part:

The Decedent allegedly executed a Will dated April 10, 2008, which was the product of undue influence and was drafted in violation of the *Code of Professional Responsibility for Attorneys [sic]*, *Rule 42, Rules of Supreme Court, ER 1.8c* [sic] because the drafting attorney [Respondent] named himself as devisee [sic].

18. On May 10, 2016, during the pendency of the probate case, Complainant Shepherd filed a petition in that case against Rondie Yancey, Respondent and his wife, and Sanders & Parks, P.C. (Respondent's law firm) on the personal representative's (Lisa Omstead's) behalf (*Omstead v. Yancey, Eagleburger and Sanders & Parks*, Pima County Superior Court No. PB2014-1243). The pleading alleged, *inter alia*, financial exploitation of an adult, unreasonable attorney's fees (by Respondent), and legal malpractice based on a conflict of interest.

19. On February 2, 2017, the court denied Respondent's motion to dismiss a claim for attorney's fees pursuant to A.R.S. § 14-1105(C). The court stated:

Petitioner [Lisa Omstead] certainly pleads sufficient facts showing Respondent[s] [Eagleburger and Sanders & Parks] engaged in unreasonable conduct which incurred professional fees to Decedent's [e]state. For instance, [Respondent] Eagleburger filed an application for

informal probate of a will under which he was the sole devisee [sic]. The Petitioner hired an attorney to oppose the will's probate. Inferences favorable to Petitioner dictate attorney's fees were incurred by the estate as a result of that litigation.

20. The court also found on February 2, 2017, that Respondent "should not

informally probate a will under which he was the sole devisee [sic]." The court, in

denying Respondent's motion to dismiss the professional malpractice claim, stated:

Petitioner presents well-pleaded facts asserting [Respondent] Eagleburger owed and breached his fiduciary duty to Joseph Yancey [hereinafter "Decedent"] and that the breach caused damage to Decedent and his estate. Respondents do not challenge the sufficiency of facts pleaded. Respondents instead request dismissal of the professional malpractice claim contending it is non-assignable.

(Second bracket in original).

21. Attorney Shepherd filed two amended petitions against Respondent, his wife and Sanders & Park, which included allegations related to Respondent's interactions with Decedent, including his identification as a residual beneficiary in Decedent's will.

22. On February 16, 2018, counsel for Respondent and Complainant Shepherd (on personal representative Lisa Omstead's behalf) filed a notice of settlement. The terms of settlement are confidential.

## 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 ER 1.3, ER 1.7(a), ER 1.8(c), ER 5.3(b), and ER 8.4(d).

## 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: reprimand and one year of probation (the sole term is that Respondent complete six hours of continuing legal education (CLE), in addition to the 15 hours of mandatory continuing legal education, pertaining to conflicts of interest and supervision of nonlawyer assistants). Probation may be terminated upon successful completion of the CLE requirement.

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. The *Standards* provide guidance with respect to an appropriate sanction in this matter. *In re Peasley*, 208 Ariz. 27, 33, 35, 90 P.3d 764, 770 (2004); *In re Rivkind*, 162 Ariz. 154, 157, 791 P.2d 1037, 1040 (1990).

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

The parties agree that *Standards* 4.33, 4.43 and 7.3 are the appropriate *Standards* given the facts and circumstances of this matter. *Standard* 4.33 states, "Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer is negligent in determining whether the representation of a client may be materially affected by the lawyer's own interests, or whether the representation will adversely affect another client, and causes injury or potential injury to a client." *Standard* 4.43 states, "Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer is negligent and does not act with reasonable diligence in representing a client, and causes injury or potential injury to a client." *Standard* 7.3 states, "Reprimand is generally appropriate when a lawyer is negligent and does not act with reasonable diligence in representing a client, and causes injury or potential injury to a client."

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."

Respondent violated ER 1.3 by failing to act with reasonable diligence in representing a client (he failed to review the will his staff drafted, which included him as a residual beneficiary, and the court found on February 2, 2017, that he had improperly filed for informal probate). Respondent violated ER 1.7(a) by engaging in a conflict of interest (he allowed his staff to draft a will that could have personally benefited him as a residual beneficiary and filed for informal probate that could have resulted in the distribution of estate assets to himself). Respondent violated ER 1.8(c) by allowing his staff to prepare an instrument giving him a substantial gift (he was a residual beneficiary in a client's will even though he was not related to Decedent).

Respondent violated ER 5.3(b) by failing to adequately supervise a nonlawyer assistant who included him as a residual beneficiary in Decedent's will. Respondent violated ER 8.4(d) by engaging in conduct that was prejudicial to the administration of justice (although Respondent did not contest or participate in the formal probate of Decedent's estate—to avoid incurring expenses to the estate—hearings were held and documents filed with the court based in part on the fact that he was a residual beneficiary in a will his staff prepared for his client).

# The duty violated

As described above, Respondent's conduct violated his duty to his client by violating ER 1.3, ER 1.7(a), ER 1.8(c) and ER 5.3(b), and violated his duty to the legal system by violating ER 8.4(d).

## The lawyer's mental state

For purposes of this agreement, the parties agree that Respondent violated the Rules of Professional Conduct by negligently failing to ensure he was not listed as a residual beneficiary in a will his office drafted for Decedent, negligently and improperly filing for informal probate after Decedent's death, and negligently failing to adequately supervise his nonlawyer staff regarding the drafting of a will for Decedent.

# The extent of the actual or potential injury

For purposes of this agreement, the parties agree there was potential and actual harm to Decedent, his children and the legal system. Actual harm arose insofar as documents were filed with the court and at least one hearing held to address Respondent's conduct. Potential injury existed because Respondent could have asserted his rights as a residual beneficiary, which could have resulted in the distribution of estate assets to himself although no assertion of such right was ever undertaken by Respondent.

# Aggravating and mitigating circumstances

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

## In aggravation:

Standard 9.22(h) – vulnerability of the victim (Decedent relied on Respondent's advice regarding appropriate terms for a will, and Decedent's family members had no control over Respondent's decision to file for informal probate).

Standard 9.22(i) – substantial experience in the practice of law (Respondent was admitted to the State Bar of Arizona on April 3, 1971 and has practiced probate and estate law for a number of years).

# In mitigation:

Standard 9.32(a) – absence of a prior disciplinary record.

Standard 9.32(b) – absence of a dishonest or selfish motive (Respondent eventually did not object to the children's desire to have the estate pass by intestate succession rather than as set forth in the will; Respondent did not object because intestate succession would fulfill Decedent's wish that all three of his children receive one-third of his estate).

Standard 9.32(e) - full and free disclosure to the State Bar and cooperative attitude toward the proceedings (including his willingness to enter into this consent agreement).

Standard 9.32(j) – delay in the disciplinary proceedings (the initial charge was received on April 19, 2016).

Standard 9.32(1) – remorse.

## 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. This agreement was based on the following: The misconduct was primarily negligent in nature and Respondent eventually disclaimed any rights as a residual beneficiary; there was some harm, however, due to additional efforts expended by opposing counsel and the court to address Respondent's conduct.

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 sanctions 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 reprimand, one year of probation (the sole term is that Respondent complete six hours of continuing legal education, in addition to the 15 hours of mandatory continuing legal education, pertaining to conflicts of interest and supervision of nonlawyer assistants; Respondent must obtain consent from bar counsel before attending the continuing legal education programs, and must provide the State Bar Compliance Monitor with handwritten notes taken during the programs), and the imposition of costs and expenses related to this disciplinary proceeding. Probation may be terminated upon successful completion of the CLE requirement. A proposed form of order is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

DATED this day of November, 2018.

## STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

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James D. Lee Senior Bar Counsel

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

YE DATED this 16 day of November, 2013 11 G. Gregory Eagleburger Respondent

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Approved as to form and content

Maret Vessella Chief Bar Counsel

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018.

Copy of the foregoing emailed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018, to:

The Honorable William J. O'Neil Presiding Disciplinary Judge Supreme Court of Arizona 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 102 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 E-mail: officepdj@courts.az.gov

16-5527

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

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018.

G. Gregory Eagleburger Respondent

Approved as to form and content

Marellassella

Maret Vessella Chief Bar Counsel

Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018.

Copy of the foregoing emailed this  $\underline{164}$  day of November, 2018, to:

The Honorable William J. O'Neil Presiding Disciplinary Judge Supreme Court of Arizona 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 102 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 E-mail: officepdj@courts.az.gov Copy of the foregoing mailed/emailed this 101 day of November, 2018, to:

G. Gregory Eagleburger The Eagleburger Law Firm 11201 North Tatum Blvd, Suite 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6064 Email: Greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018, to:

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

bv: fDL/nr

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EXHIBIT A

### Statement of Costs and Expenses

In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695, Respondent

#### File No. 16-1288

#### Administrative Expenses

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

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

#### General Administrative Expenses for above-numbered proceedings

#### \$ 1,200.00

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

### Staff Investigator/Miscellaneous Charges

Total for staff investigator charges	\$ 0.00
TOTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED	\$ 1,200.00

EXHIBIT B

### **BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

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

G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER, Bar No. 002695, PDJ-2018-\_\_\_\_

FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER

Respondent.

[State Bar No. 16-1288]

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge, having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on November \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz.

R. Sup. Ct., accepts the parties' proposed agreement. Accordingly:

IT IS ORDERED that Respondent, G. Gregory Eagleburger, is reprimanded

for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** placing Respondent on probation for a period of one year, with the terms set forth below.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent participate in the following programs:

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1. CLE: In addition to annual MCLE requirements, Respondent shall complete six hours of Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") programs pertaining to conflicts of interest and supervision of nonlawyer assistants. Prior to attending the programs, Respondent must obtain consent from bar counsel for the programs he wishes to complete. Respondent shall provide the State Bar Compliance Monitor with evidence of completion of the programs by providing a copy of his handwritten notes. Respondent should contact the Compliance Monitor at 602-340-7258 to make arrangements to submit his handwritten notes. Respondent will be responsible for the cost of the CLE programs.

### 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 will 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

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proof shall be on the State Bar of Arizona to prove noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that probation may be terminated upon successful completion of the CLE requirement.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent pay the costs and expenses of the State Bar of Arizona in the amount of \$1,200, within thirty (30) days from the date 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.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that if Respondent fails to pay the costs and expenses within 30 days, interest will begin to accrue at the legal rate.

**DATED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018.

# 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 November, 2018. Copies of the foregoing mailed/emailed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018, to:

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G. Gregory Eagleburger The Eagleburger Law Firm 11201 North Tatum Blvd, Suite 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6064 Email: Greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

Copy of the foregoing emailed/hand-delivered this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2018, to:

James D. Lee Senior Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered this day of November, 2018, to:

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

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

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original on file in this office. Certified this 28 day of Feb., 2019 By Amel Mac
Disciplinary Clerk Supreme Court of Arizona

James D. Lee, Bar No. 011586 Senior Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Telephone: (602) 340-7272 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

NOV 1 9 2018

### **BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

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

G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER, Bar No. 002695,

Respondent.

### PDJ-2018-9108

# STATE BAR'S NOTICE OF ERRATA RE: AGREEMENT FOR DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT

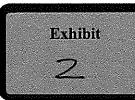
[State Bar No. 16-1288]

The State Bar of Arizona, by undersigned bar counsel, hereby notifies the Presiding Disciplinary Judge and all parties of an inadvertent error in the *Agreement for Discipline by Consent*, which was filed on November 16, 2018. Paragraph 15, on page 7 of the Agreement, referred to the Maricopa County Superior Court Probate Registrar, but it should have been the Pima County Superior Court Probate Registrar.

**DATED** this  $19^{+4}$  day of November, 2018.

STATE BAR OF ARIZONA nes D. Kes

James D. Lee Senior Bar Counsel



Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk of the Office of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona this  $\underline{19^{h}}$  day of November, 2018.

Copy of the foregoing emailed this  $\underline{19^{k}}$  day of November, 2018, to:

The Honorable William J. O'Neil Presiding Disciplinary Judge Supreme Court of Arizona 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 102 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 E-mail: officepdj@courts.az.gov

Copy of the foregoing mailed/emailed this  $19^{+1}$  day of November, 2018, to:

G. Gregory Eagleburger The Eagleburger Law Firm 11201 N Tatum Blvd, Ste 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6064 Email: Greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

Copy of the foregoing hand-delivered this  $19^{th}$  day of November, 2018, to:

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

by: Ann E. Callopeo JDL/kc

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Certified this 28 day of Feb. 2019
Brouch Miela
Disciplinary Clerk Supreme Court of Arlzona

## **BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

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

## G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER, Bar No. 002695

Respondent.

## PDJ 2018-9108

DECISION ACCEPTING DISCIPLINE BY CONSENT

[State Bar No. 16-1288]

**FILED DECEMBER 7, 2018** 

Under Rule 57(a), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.,<sup>1</sup> an Agreement for Discipline by Consent ("Agreement"), was filed on November 16, 2018. A Probable Cause Order issued on October 30, 2018, however, no formal complaint has been filed. Mr. Eagleburger is representing himself and the State Bar of Arizona is represented by Senior Bar Counsel James D. Lee.

Rule 57 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. Mr. Eagleburger has voluntarily waived the right to an adjudicatory hearing, and waived

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated all Rule references are to the Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.



all motions, defenses, objections or requests that could be asserted upon approval of the proposed form of discipline. Notice of the Agreement and an opportunity to object within five (5) days pursuant to Rule 53(b)(3), was sent to the complainant by email on November 2, 2018. No objections have been filed.

The Agreement details a factual basis to support the conditional admissions and are briefly summarized. It is incorporated by this reference. Mr. Eagleburger admits to violating Rule 42, specifically ERs 1.3 (diligence), 1.7(a) (conflict of interest/current clients), 1.8(c) (conflict of interest/current clients/special rules, 5.3(b) and 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice). The parties stipulate to a sanction of reprimand and one year of probation. The sole term of probation requires the completion of 6 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) in the area of conflict of interest and supervision of non-lawyer assistants. These hours are in addition to the annual mandatory CLE required. Mr. Eagleburger also agrees to pay costs in the amount of \$1,200.00 within 30 days from the date of this order.

For purposes of the Agreement, the parties stipulate Mr. Eagleburger was retained in 2008 to draft a will for his client that included the distribution of property. Mr. Eagleburger then negligently failed to ensure the will was properly prepared. Mr. Eagleburger was named as the personal representative and also identified as a residual beneficiary. He also improperly filed for informal probate.

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The parties agree Mr. Eagleburger negligently violated his duties to his client and his misconduct cause potential and actual harm to the client, his client's children and the legal system

The parties further agree aggravating factors 9.22(h) (vulnerability of victim) and (i) (substantial experience in the practice of law) are present, and in mitigation are factors 9.32(a) (absence of prior disciplinary offenses), (b) (absence of dishonest or selfish motive), (e) (full and free disclosure to disciplinary board or cooperative attitude toward proceedings), (j) (delay in proceedings) and (l) (remorse). The PDJ notes that no evidence of remorse is present, however, the absence of this factor does not change the outcome.

**IT IS ORDERED** accepting the Agreement and incorporating it with any supporting documents by this reference. A final judgment and order is signed this date.

DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018.

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

COPY of the foregoing e-mailed on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018, And mailed December 10, 2018, to:

James D. Lee Senior Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 N 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org G. Gregory Eagleburger 11201 North Tatum Blvd., Suite 300 Phoenix, AZ 85028-6064 Email: greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

by: AMcQueen

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original on file in this office. Certified this 28 day of Feb. 2019
- service -
Disciplinary Clerk
Supreme Court of Arizona

### **BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE**

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

## G. GREGORY EAGLEBURGER, Bar No. 002695

Respondent.

### PDJ-2018-9108

# FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER

[State Bar No. 16-1288]

## FILED DECEMBER 7, 2018

The Presiding Disciplinary Judge, having reviewed the Agreement for Discipline by Consent filed on November 16, 2018, pursuant to Rule 57(a), Ariz. R.

Sup. Ct., accepts the parties' proposed agreement. Accordingly:

# IT IS ORDERED Respondent, G. Gregory Eagleburger, Bar No. 002695,

is reprimanded for his conduct in violation of the Arizona Rules of Professional Conduct, as outlined in the consent documents effective the date of this order.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** placing Mr. Eagleburger on probation for a period of one (1) year, with the terms set forth below.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Mr. Eagleburger shall participate in the following programs:

Exhibit

Continuing Legal Education: In addition to annual MCLE requirements, Respondent shall complete six hours of Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") programs pertaining to conflicts of interest and supervision of nonlawyer assistants. Prior to attending the programs, Respondent shall obtain consent from bar counsel for the programs he seeks to complete. Respondent shall provide the State Bar Compliance Monitor with evidence of completion of the programs by providing a copy of his handwritten notes. Respondent shall contact the Compliance Monitor at 602-340-7258 to make arrangements to submit his handwritten notes. Respondent shall be responsible for the cost of the CLE programs.

### **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 will 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** Respondent's probation may be terminated upon successful completion of the CLE requirement.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Respondent 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. Interest will begin to accrue at the legal rate until paid.

**DATED** this 7th day of December, 2018.

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

COPY of the foregoing e-mailed on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018, And mailed December 10, 2018, to:

G. Gregory Eagleburger The Eagleburger Law Firm 11201 North Tatum Blvd, Suite 300 Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6064 Email: Greg@eagleburgerlawfirm.com Respondent

James D. Lee Senior Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6266 Email: LRO@staff.azbar.org

by: AMcQueen