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

IN THE MATTER OF §
DONALD W. HILL § CAUSE NO. 46727
STATE BAR CARD NO. 09628400 §

## AGREED INTERLOCUTORY ORDER OF SUSPENSION

On this day, the above-styled and numbered compulsory disciplinary action was called for hearing before the Board of Disciplinary Appeals. Petitioner appeared by attorney and Respondent appeared as indicated by their respective signatures below and announced that they agree to the findings of fact, conclusions of law and orders set forth below. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals, having reviewed the file and in consideration of the agreement of the parties, is of the opinion that Petitioner is entitled to entry of the following findings and orders:

## <u>Findings of Fact</u>. The Board of Disciplinary Appeals finds that:

- (1) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, whose State Bar Card number is 09628400, is licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas to practice law but is not currently authorized to practice law in the State of Texas.
- On or about September 27, 2007, Respondent was charged by Indictment with Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Extortion; Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Deprivation of Honest Services Wire Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering; and Tax Evasion, in Cause No. 3:07CR289-R, styled United States of America v. Donald W. Hill (01) a/k/a "Don Hill", D'Angelo Lee (02), Sheila Farrington (03) a/k/a "Sheila Hill", Brian L. Potashnik (04), Cheryl L. Potashnik (05) a/k/a "Cheryl L. Geiser", Gladys E. Hodge (06) a/k/a "Terri Hodge", Darren L. Reagan (07) a/k/a "Dr. Darren L. Reagan", Allen J. McGill (08), Jibreel A. Rashad (09) a/k/a "Vernon Cooks, Jr.", Rickey E. Robertson (10) a/k/a "Rick Robertson", Andrea L. Spencer (11) a/k/a "Toni Fisher" and "Toni Thomas", Ronald W. Slovacek (12) a/k/a "Ron Slovacek", Kevin J. Dean (13), John J. Lewis (14), in the United States District Court for the Northern District

of Texas, Dallas Division.

- On or about March 23, 2010, a Judgment in a Criminal Case was entered in (3) Case No. 3:07-CR-289-M(01), styled United States of America v. Donald W. Hill a/k/a Don Hill, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, wherein Respondent was found guilty of Count 10 - Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 11 Pribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 12 Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 8 U.S.C. §§ 666(a)(1)(B) & (2), Count 15 - Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation of U.S.C. § 1951, Count 16 - Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1951 & 2, and Count 19 -Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h), and was sentenced to two-hundred and sixteen (216) months in the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be followed by three (3) years of supervised release upon release from imprisonment, ordered to pay \$112,500 in restitution and a fine in the amount of \$600.
- (5) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, is the same person as the Donald W. Hill who is the subject of the Hill criminal case described above.
- (6) Respondent has appealed the criminal conviction.

<u>Conclusions of Law</u>. Based upon the foregoing findings of facts the Board of Disciplinary Appeals makes the following conclusions of law:

- (1) This Board has jurisdiction to hear and determine this matter. Rule 7.08(G), Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure;
- (2) Respondent, Donald W. Hill, having been convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Bribery Concerning a Local Government Receiving Federal Benefits and Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy to Commit Extortion in violation; Extortion by Public Officials and Aiding and Abetting; and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering has been convicted of Intentional Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(T).

- (3) Respondent has also been convicted of Serious Crimes as defined by TRDP 1.06(Z).
- (4) Having been found guilty and convicted of Intentional and Serious Crimes and having appealed such conviction, Respondent, Donald W. Hill, should have his license to practice law in Texas suspended during the appeal of his criminal conviction. TRDP 8.04.
- (5) The Board retains jurisdiction to enter a final judgment in this matter when the criminal appeal is final.

It is, accordingly, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, State Bar Card No. 09628400, is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law in the State of Texas effective immediately upon entry of this order and continuing hereafter until further order of this Board.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, during said suspension is hereby prohibited, effective immediately, from practicing law in Texas, holding himself out as an attorney at law, performing any legal service for others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services not completed before the date of this order, appearing as counsel in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body, or holding himself out to others or using his name, in any manner, in conjunction with the words "attorney," "counselor," or "lawyer."

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, shall notify in writing, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, each and every justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each and every court in which Respondent, Donald W. Hill, has any legal matter pending, if any, of his suspension, of the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and of the name, address, and telephone number of the client(s) Respondent is representing

in that court. Respondent is also ORDERED to mail copies of all such notifications to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, shall immediately notify each of his current clients, if any, in writing, of his suspension. In addition to such notification, Respondent is ORDERED to return all files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and properties which are in his possession but which belong to current or former clients, if any, to those respective clients or former clients within thirty (30) days after the date of this Order. Respondent is further ORDERED to file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, within the same thirty (30) days, an affidavit stating either (a) that all current clients have been notified of his suspension and that all files, papers, unearned fees paid in advance, and all other monies and properties belonging to clients and former clients have been returned as ordered herein or (b) that Respondent has no current clients, files, or papers, and that any unearned fees paid in advance or other monies or properties belonging to clients have previously been returned to the appropriate client. If Respondent is unable to return any file, papers, money or other property to any client or former client, Respondent's affidavit shall state with particularity the efforts made by with respect to each particular client and the cause of his inability to return to said client any file, paper, money or other property. Respondent is also ORDERED to mail a copy of all notification letters to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

Agreed Interlocutory Order of Suspension Donald W. Hill It is further ORDERED that Respondent, Donald W. Hill, immediately surrender his Texas

law license and permanent State Bar Card to the Statewide Compliance Monitor, Office of the Chief

Disciplinary, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, for

transmittal to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas.

It is further ORDERED that a certified copy of the Petition for Compulsory Discipline on file

herein, along with a copy of this Order, be sent to the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of

Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711.

It is further ORDERED that this Order is interlocutory and that the Board retains jurisdiction

to enter a final judgment when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final. In the Matter of

Mercier, 242 SW 3d 46 (Tex. 2007).

It is further ORDERED that Respondent shall promptly notify the Board and the State Bar of

Texas Chief Disciplinary Counsel when the appeal of the criminal conviction is final.

It is further ORDERED that the Chief Disciplinary Counsel of the State Bar of Texas shall

monitor the status of the appeal of the criminal conviction on at least a quarterly basis and promptly

file an appropriate motion for entry of final judgment with the Board when the appeal of the criminal

conviction is final.

Chairman Presiding

Board of Disciplinary Appeals

Agreed Interlocutory Order of Suspension Donald W. Hill

## APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Alex Veltman

Assistant Disciplinary Counsel State Bar Card No. 00795698 Attorney for Petitioner

Donald W. Hill

State Bar Card No. 09628400

Respondent