

FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

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In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action  
against JOHN NWABUWANE AKWUBA,  
a Minnesota Attorney,  
Registration No. 0280446.  
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**STIPULATION FOR DISPENSING  
WITH PANEL PROCEEDINGS,  
FOR FILING PETITION FOR  
DISCIPLINARY ACTION,  
AND FOR DISCIPLINE**

THIS STIPULATION is entered into by and between Martin A. Cole, Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, and John Nwabuwane Akwuba, attorney, hereinafter respondent.

WHEREAS, respondent has concluded it is in respondent's best interest to enter into this stipulation,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the undersigned as follows:

1. It is understood that respondent has the right to have charges of unprofessional conduct heard by a Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board Panel prior to the filing of a petition for disciplinary action, as set forth in the Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility (RLPR). Pursuant to Rule 10(a), RLPR, the parties agree to dispense with Panel proceedings under Rule 9, RLPR, and respondent agrees to the immediate filing of a petition for disciplinary action, hereinafter petition, in the Minnesota Supreme Court.

2. Respondent understands that upon the filing of this stipulation and the petition, this matter will be of public record.

3. It is understood that respondent has certain rights pursuant to Rule 14, RLPR. Respondent waives these rights, which include the right to a hearing before a referee on the petition; to have the referee make findings and conclusions and a recommended disposition; to contest such findings and conclusions; and to a hearing before the Supreme Court upon the record, briefs and arguments. Respondent hereby admits service of the petition.

4. Respondent waives the right to answer and unconditionally admits the allegations of the petition

5. Respondent understands that based upon these admissions, this Court may impose any of the sanctions set forth in Rule 15(a)(1) - (9), RLPR, including making any disposition it deems appropriate. Respondent understands that by entering into this stipulation, the Director is not making any representations as to the sanction the Court will impose.

6. The Director and respondent join in recommending that:

a. The appropriate discipline is a 60-day suspension pursuant to Rule 15, RLPR;

b. The reinstatement hearing provided for in Rule 18(a) through (d), RLPR, be waived;

c. Respondent be required to successfully complete the professional responsibility portion of the state bar examination within one year of the date of this Court's order;

d. Respondent comply with Rule 26, RLPR;

e. Respondent pay \$900 in costs pursuant to Rule 24(a), RLPR;

f. Respondent be reinstated following the expiration of the suspension provided that at least 15 days before the expiration of the suspension period, respondent files an affidavit with the Clerk of Appellate Courts and the Director's Office establishing that respondent is current with Continuing Legal Education, has fully complied with Rules 24 and 26, RLPR, and has satisfactorily completed all other conditions imposed by the Court in its decision.

f. Upon reinstatement to the practice of law, respondent shall be placed on probation for a period of two years, subject to the following conditions:

i. Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Director's Office in its efforts to monitor compliance with this probation and promptly respond to the Director's correspondence by the due date. Respondent shall provide to the Director a current mailing address and shall immediately notify the Director of any change of address. Respondent shall cooperate with the Director's investigation of any allegations of unprofessional conduct which may come to the Director's attention. Upon the Director's request, respondent shall provide authorization for release of information and documentation to verify compliance with the terms of this probation.

ii. Respondent shall abide by the Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct.

iii. Respondent shall be supervised by an attorney with the Director's Office to monitor respondent's compliance with the terms of this probation.

iv. Respondent shall maintain law office and trust account books and records in compliance with Rule 1.15, MRPC, and Appendix 1 to the MRPC. These books and records include the following: client subsidiary ledger, checkbook register, monthly trial balances, monthly trust account reconciliation, bank statements, canceled checks, duplicate deposit slips and bank reports of interest, service charges and interest payments to the Minnesota IOLTA Program. Such books and records shall be made available to the Director within 30 days after being requested and thereafter shall be made available to the Director at such intervals as he deems necessary to determine compliance.

v. If after one year the Director, in his sole discretion, determines that probation is no longer necessary to ensure that respondent is compliant with his obligations under Rule 1.15, MRPC, and Appendix 1 thereto, the Director may terminate the probation.

7. This stipulation is entered into by respondent freely and voluntarily, without any coercion, duress or representations by any person except as contained herein.

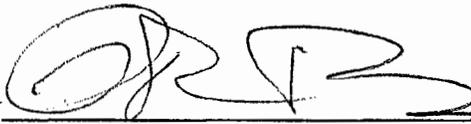
8. Respondent hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of this stipulation.

9. Respondent has been advised by the undersigned counsel concerning this stipulation and these proceedings generally.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties executed this stipulation on the dates indicated below.

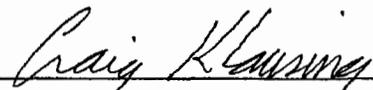
Dated: July 20, 2015.

MARTIN A. COLE  
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LAWYERS  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

By 

PATRICK R. BURNS  
FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
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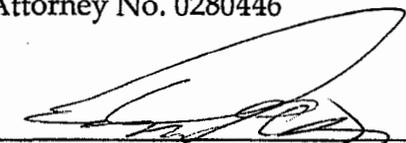
and

  
CRAIG D. KLAUSING  
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Attorney No. 0202873

Dated: 8/7/15, 2015.

  
JOHN NWABUWANE AKWUBA  
RESPONDENT  
Attorney No. 0280446

Dated: 8/7, 2015.

  
ERIC TODD COOPERSTEIN  
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT  
Attorney No. 0210201