

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

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In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action  
against JAMES HILLSON COHEN,  
a Minnesota Attorney,  
Registration No. 0263643.  
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**STIPULATION  
FOR DISCIPLINE**

THIS STIPULATION is entered into by and between Martin A. Cole, Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, and James Hillson Cohen, 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. Pursuant to the Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility (RLPR), the parties agree to dispense with further proceedings under Rule 14, RLPR, and respondent agrees to the immediate disposition of this matter by the Minnesota Supreme Court under Rule 15, RLPR.
2. Respondent understands this stipulation, when filed, 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.
4. Respondent 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 sanctions the Court will impose.

6. The Director and respondent join in recommending that:
  - a. The appropriate discipline is a public reprimand;
  - b. Respondent agrees to the imposition and payment of \$900 in costs pursuant to Rule 24, RLPR;
  - c. Respondent retired from the practice of law on October 27, 2014, and his license was transferred to "retired status" effective December 10, 2014. If respondent wishes to resume active (practicing) status, before doing so he shall (1) give the Director 30 days' notice, and (2) identify a probation supervisor who has consented to supervise respondent's probation, as described below. Upon the return to active status respondent shall be placed on supervised probation for a period of two years, with the following probation 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 (MRPC).
    - iii. Respondent shall be supervised by a licensed Minnesota attorney, appointed by the Director to monitor compliance with the terms of this probation. Respondent shall provide to the Director the names of four attorneys who have agreed to be nominated as respondent's

supervisor within two weeks from the date of the Court's order. If, after diligent effort, respondent is unable to locate a supervisor acceptable to the Director, the Director will seek to appoint a supervisor. Respondent shall not return to practice until a supervisor who is acceptable to the Director has consented in writing to supervise respondent.

iv. Respondent shall cooperate fully with the supervisor in his/her efforts to monitor compliance with this probation. Respondent shall contact the supervisor and schedule a minimum of one in-person meeting per calendar quarter. Respondent shall submit to the supervisor an inventory of all active client files by the first day of each month during the probation. With respect to each active file, the inventory shall disclose the client name, type of representation, date opened, most recent activity, next anticipated action, and anticipated closing date. Respondent's supervisor shall file written reports with the Director at least quarterly, or at such more frequent intervals as may reasonably be requested by the Director.

v. 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 from the filing of the Court's order and thereafter shall be made available to the Director at such intervals as he deems necessary to determine compliance.

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 hereby admits service of the petition.
10. 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: April 30, 2015

M.A. Cole  
MARTIN A. COLE  
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LAWYERS  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY  
Attorney No. 0148416  
1500 Landmark Towers  
345 St. Peter Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102-1218  
(651) 296-3952

Dated: April 30, 2015

K.T. Slator  
KEVIN T. SLATOR  
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Attorney No. 0204584

Dated: May 22, 2015

James Hillson Cohen  
JAMES HILLSON COHEN  
RESPONDENT  
Attorney No. 0263643

Dated: 5/22/15

Charles E. Lundberg  
CHARLES E. LUNDBERG  
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