

FILE NO. A05-1659

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action
against MICHAEL W. COOPET,
a Minnesota Attorney,
Registration No. 139567.

**STIPULATION
FOR DISCIPLINE**

THIS STIPULATION is entered into by and between Betty M. Shaw, Acting Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, and Michael W. Coopet, 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 petitions; 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 withdraws his answers to the petition and supplementary petition for disciplinary action and unconditionally admits the allegations of the petitions.

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 the appropriate discipline is a 36-month suspension pursuant to Rule 15, RLPR. The suspension shall be effective 14 days from the date of the Court's suspension order. The reinstatement hearing provided for in Rule 18, RLPR, is not waived. Reinstatement is conditioned upon: (1) payment of costs in the amount of \$900 plus interest and disbursements in the amount of \$1,224.22 plus interest pursuant to Rule 24(d), RLPR; (2) compliance with Rule 26, RLPR; (3) successful completion of the professional responsibility examination pursuant to Rule 18(e); and (4) satisfaction of the continuing legal education requirements pursuant to Rule 18(e), RLPR.

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 of the right to be represented herein by an attorney but has freely chosen to appear *pro se*.

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

Dated: February 16, 2006.

Betty Shaw
BETTY M. SHAW
ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF
LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
Attorney No. 130904
1500 Landmark Towers
345 St. Peter Street
St. Paul, MN 55102-1218
(651) 296-3952

Dated: February 16, 2006.

Craig D. Klausning
CRAIG D. KLAUSING
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Attorney No. 202873

Dated: FEB. 21, 2006.

Michael W. Coopet
MICHAEL W. COOPET
RESPONDENT
323 1/2 Newport Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90814

MEMORANDUM

Given respondent's extensive misconduct, a suspension of longer than 36 months might otherwise be warranted. However, the Director understands that if this matter were to go to a hearing, respondent would argue mitigation in the form of mental health issues. While not conceding the presence of such mitigation, the Director has taken this factor into consideration in determining the appropriate discipline.

B.M.S.