

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

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In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action  
against LAURENCE B. HUGHES,  
a Minnesota Attorney,  
Registration No. 47910.  
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**PETITION FOR  
DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

The Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, files this petition upon the parties' agreement pursuant to Rules 10(a) and 12(a), Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility. The Director alleges:

The above-named attorney, hereinafter respondent, was admitted to practice law in Minnesota on October 13, 1965. Respondent currently practices law in Worthington, Minnesota.

Respondent has committed the following unprofessional conduct warranting public discipline:

FIRST COUNT

1. On or about June 9, 1992, Benjamin and Luverna Koch retained respondent to provide estate planning services. Respondent and the Kochs discussed creating an irrevocable trust along with a deed transferring agricultural real estate into the irrevocable trust. Respondent drafted a declaration of trust, pour over wills, an irrevocable trust and a deed to transfer real property into the irrevocable trust. The Kochs executed these documents sometime in 1992 and respondent recorded the deed.

2. In October 1992, respondent again met with the Kochs to transfer other investments, including a Dean Witter investment account, into the irrevocable trust.

3. Respondent had no further contact with the Kochs until October 1998, when he was contacted by the Kochs' son, Richard Koch, to update the irrevocable trust to include a special needs provision for the Kochs' disabled daughter, C.G.

4. Respondent falsely prepared a new irrevocable trust for the Kochs' signature and backdated the trust document to reflect a signature date of June 9, 1992. Respondent also falsely notarized the acknowledgement on the irrevocable trust as having been signed by the parties on June 9, 1992, when in fact the document was signed in 1998. Respondent charged the Kochs \$250 in attorney's fees for preparing the irrevocable trust agreement.

5. Respondent's misconduct was reported to the Director in connection with a review by the local county attorney's office of the above irrevocable trust when C.G. applied for state benefits in 2007.

6. Respondent's conduct violated Rules 4.1 and 8.4(c), Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct.

WHEREFORE, the Director respectfully prays for an order of this Court imposing appropriate discipline, awarding costs and disbursements pursuant to the Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility, and for such other, further or different relief as may be just and proper.

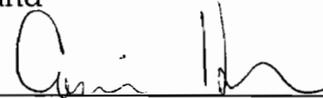
Dated: July 17, 2007.



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MARTIN A. COLE  
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and



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CASSIE HANSON  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
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