

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

-----  
In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action  
against WILLIAM JOHN MORRIS, JR.,  
a Minnesota Attorney,  
Registration No. 230637.  
-----

**AMENDED PETITION FOR  
DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Upon the approval of the Chair of the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board, the Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, files this petition pursuant to Rules 10(c) and 12(a), Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility (RLPR). The Director alleges:

The above-named attorney, hereinafter respondent, was admitted to practice law in Minnesota on October 23, 1992. It is the Director's understanding that respondent is currently incarcerated in the Federal Prison Camp in Duluth, Minnesota. Respondent was suspended on July 1, 2006, for non-payment of lawyer registration fees. Respondent has remained suspended continuously since then.

Respondent has committed the following unprofessional conduct warranting public discipline:

FIRST COUNT

1. As more particularly alleged below, on February 2, 2010, respondent was convicted of a crime, twelve felony-level counts of mail fraud and wire fraud, aiding

and abetting wire fraud, and making and subscribing a false tax return in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 1341, and 1343, and 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1), a necessary element of which is false swearing, misrepresentation, and/or fraud within the meaning of Rule 10(c), RLPR.

2. In 2008, respondent was indicted. In January 2009, the indictment was unsealed. The indictment charged respondent with conspiracy, aiding and abetting wire fraud, mail fraud, and making and subscribing a false tax return. The matter arose out of respondent's involvement with CyberStudy 101.

3. On February 2, 2010, after a three-week trial, the jury found respondent guilty of twelve felony-level counts.

4. On March 2, 2012, the Eighth Circuit affirmed respondent's conviction (Exhibit 1).

5. Rule 19(a), RLPR, provides in pertinent part:

**Criminal Conviction.** A lawyer's criminal conviction in any American jurisdiction . . . is, in proceedings under these Rules, conclusive evidence that the lawyer committed the conduct for which the lawyer was convicted.

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

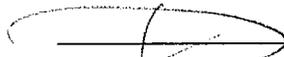
WHEREFORE, the Director respectfully prays for an order of this Court disbarring respondent or imposing otherwise appropriate discipline, awarding costs

and disbursements pursuant to the Rules on Lawyers Professional Responsibility, and for such other, further or different relief as may be just and proper.

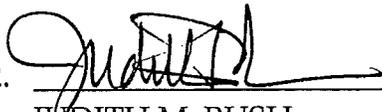
Dated: April 10, 2012.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARTIN A. COLE  
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LAWYERS  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY  
Attorney No. 148416  
1500 Landmark Towers  
345 St. Peter Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102-1218  
(651) 296-3952

and

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TIMOTHY M. BURKE  
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Attorney No. 19248x

Pursuant to Rule 10(c) and 12(a), RLPR, this petition for disciplinary action is hereby approved.

Dated: April 11, 2012.   
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDITH M. RUSH  
CHAIR, LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY BOARD