

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

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In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action  
against RICHARD A. OHLSEN,  
a Minnesota Attorney,  
Registration No. 81176.  
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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 Kenneth L. Jorgensen, Director of the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility, hereinafter Director, and Richard A. Ohlsen, 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 which may be summarized as follows:

a. Respondent's abandonment of a client matter; failure to keep a client apprised on the status of their case and to respond to client communications; and failure to notify a client that her claim was dismissed with prejudice and that she was sanctioned by the court for respondent's failure to comply with discovery requests violated Rules 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4, Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct (MRPC).

b. Respondent's repeated failure to comply with discovery requests, which resulted in the client's case being dismissed with prejudice and the court sanctioning the client, violated Rules 3.2, 3.4(c), and 8.4(d), MRPC.

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 the appropriate discipline is a public reprimand and two years supervised probation pursuant to Rule 15, RLPR. Respondent agrees to the imposition and payment of \$900 in costs pursuant to Rule 24, RLPR.

7. Respondent shall be placed on supervised probation for a period of two years on the following conditions:

a. 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 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.

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

c. 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 this stipulation is executed. If, after diligent effort, respondent is unable to locate a supervisor acceptable to the Director, the Director will seek to appoint a supervisor. Until a supervisor has signed a consent to supervise, the respondent shall on the first day of each month provide the Director with an inventory of active client files described in paragraph d. below. Respondent shall make active client files available to the Director upon request.

d. 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.

e. Respondent shall initiate and maintain office procedures which ensure that there are prompt responses to correspondence, telephone calls, and other important communications from clients, courts and other persons interested in matters which respondent is handling, and which will ensure that

respondent regularly reviews each and every file and completes legal matters on a timely basis.

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

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

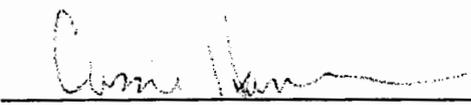
10. Respondent has been advised by the undersigned counsel concerning this stipulation and these proceedings generally.

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

Dated: November 23, 2004.

  
KENNETH L. JORGENSEN  
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LAWYERS  
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY  
Attorney No. 159463  
1500 Landmark Towers  
345 St. Peter Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102-1218  
(651) 296-3952

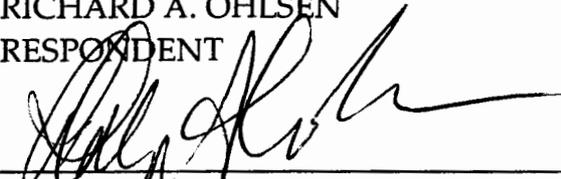
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

  
CASSIE HANSON  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
Attorney No. 303422

Dated: Dec 17, 2004.

  
RICHARD A. OHLSEN  
RESPONDENT

Dated: Dec 17, 2004.

  
PHILLIP COLE  
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT  
Attorney No. 17802  
80 South Eighth Street, Suite 2000  
Minneapolis, MN 55402