

FILE NO. A13-1003

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Petition for Disciplinary Action
against CHRISTOPHER STEPHEN PETROS,
a Minnesota Attorney,
Registration No. 32131X.

**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 Christopher Stephen Petros, 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 waives the right to answer and unconditionally admits the allegations of the petition which may be summarized as follows:

a. Respondent represented A.A. in a dissolution and custody matter. Respondent failed to notify A.A. of a motion served and filed by the opposing party, which resulted in A.A.'s failure to appear for the hearing on the motion. Respondent failed to submit any responsive evidence on A.A.'s behalf and did not request a continuance of the hearing. Respondent, through his associate, falsely represented to the court that he had mailed the motion papers to A.A. and subsequently failed to correct the misrepresentation made to the court.

b. Respondent represented N.H. and R.H. in a child in need of protection or services matter. After N.H. and R.H. lost their appeal in the Court of Appeals, respondent failed to timely notify them of the Court of Appeals' decision. Respondent also failed to advise N.H. and R.H. of the deadline to petition the Minnesota Supreme Court for review and failed to advise them that he would not file the petition on their behalf.

c. In the course of the Director's investigation into the complaints of A.A. and N.H. and R.H., respondent submitted four fabricated letters evidencing his purported communications with the clients. Respondent also made multiple false statements to the district ethics committee investigator and the Director.

d. In a third client matter, respondent agreed to review J.L.'s child support matter. Respondent failed to communicate with J.L., failed to diligently pursue J.L.'s matter and failed to timely return J.L.'s file.

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 indefinite suspension from the practice of law for a minimum period of ninety (90) days pursuant to Rule 15, RLPR. The suspension shall be effective on the date of the Court's suspension order. The reinstatement hearing provided for in Rule 18, RLPR, is not waived. Respondent shall be permitted to apply for reinstatement forty-five (45) days after the suspension becomes effective. Reinstatement is conditioned upon: (1) payment of costs in the amount of \$900 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), RLPR; 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 by the undersigned counsel concerning this stipulation and these proceedings generally.

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

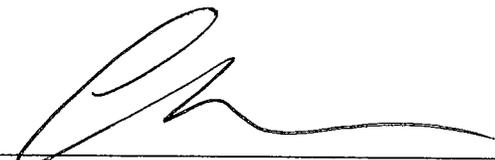
Dated: June 19, 2013.


MARTIN A. COLE
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PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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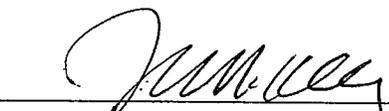
Dated: June 19, 2013.


SIAMA Y. CHAUDHARY
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Attorney No. 350291

Dated: June 24, 2013.


CHRISTOPHER STEPHEN PETROS
RESPONDENT

Dated: June 21, 2013.


THOMAS M. KELLY
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