FILE NO. A13-1303

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Petition for Disciplinary
Action against VINCENT FRANCIS WATERS,
a Minnesota Attorney,
Registration No. 225964.

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 Vincent Francis Waters, 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 withdraws the answer filed herein and unconditionally admits the allegations of the petition.

5. Respondent asserts and the Director, after review of treatment records provided by respondent, agrees that his misconduct is mitigated by virtue of his chemical dependency problems.

6. 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.

7. The Director and respondent join in recommending that the appropriate discipline is an indefinite suspension with a ninety day minimum 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. In addition to meeting the established standards for reinstatement to the practice of law, reinstatement is conditioned upon: (1) payment of costs in the amount of $900 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) prior to the filing of a petition for reinstatement; (4) satisfaction of the continuing legal education requirements pursuant to Rule 18(e), RLPR; and (5) proof that respondent's chemical dependency problem is in remission; that he is actively participating in appropriate aftercare treatment; that he is currently abstinent from alcohol and other mood-altering chemicals, except that respondent may use prescription drugs in accordance with the directions of a prescribing physician who is fully advised of respondent's chemical dependency before issuing the prescription; and, that he is compliant with all treatment

recommendations for chemical dependency and any aftercare recommended or prescribed by his treatment provider.

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 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: Feb. 25, 2014.

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

Dated: February 25, 2014.

PATRICK R. BURNS
FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Attorney No. 134004

Dated: 2/25, 2014.

VINCENT FRANCIS WATERS
RESPONDENT
1043 Grand Avenue, #546
St. Paul, MN 55105
(612) 356-2512