

REVIEW DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE BAR COURT
IN BANK

In the Matter of) Case No.: 08-C-14152
)
LAWRENCE EDWARD WEITZMAN)
) **RECOMMENDATION OF SUMMARY**
Member No. 43778) **DISBARMENT**
)
A Member of the State Bar.)

On November 4, 2010, the State Bar filed a request for recommendation of summary disbarment based on Lawrence E. Weitzman's felony conviction. Weitzman did not file a response. We grant the request and recommend that Weitzman be summarily disbarred.

On December 4, 2008, Weitzman pled guilty to a felony violation of title 18 United States Code section 371 (conspiracy to structure transactions in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 5324 and launder money in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) and 1957). Effective February 9, 2009, we placed Weitzman on interim suspension. On November 4, 2010, the State Bar transmitted evidence that Weitzman's conviction was final.

After the judgment of conviction becomes final, "the Supreme Court shall summarily disbar the attorney if the offense is a felony . . . and an element of the offense is the specific intent to deceive, defraud, steal, or make or suborn a false statement, or involved moral turpitude." (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6102, subd. (c).)

The record of conviction establishes that Weitzman's conviction meets the criteria for summary disbarment under Business and Professions Code section 6102, subdivision (c). First,

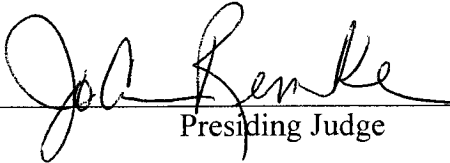
the offense is a felony. Second, the offense for which Weitzman was convicted involves moral turpitude.

Weitzman conspired to violate title 18 United States Code section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i). The moral turpitude classification of the crime of conspiracy depends upon the object of the conspiracy. (*In re McAllister* (1939) 14 Cal.2d 602, 603 [if the commission of an offense involves moral turpitude, then a conspiracy to commit the offense would also involve moral turpitude].) In order to convict under title 18 United States Code section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i), the Government must prove the defendant “(1) knew the property involved in a financial transaction represented the proceeds of some unlawful activity; [¶] (2) conducted or attempted to conduct a financial transaction which involved the proceeds of the unlawful activity; [¶] (3) knew the transaction was designed in whole or part to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, or ownership or control of the proceeds from the unlawful activity.” (*U.S. v. Levine* (10th Cir. 1992) 970 F.2d 681, 686.) “[A]n act by an attorney for the purpose of concealment or other deception is dishonest and involves moral turpitude . . .” (*Coppock v. State Bar* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 665, 679.)

When an attorney's conviction meets the requirements of Business and Professions Code section 6102, subdivision (c), "the attorney is not entitled to a State Bar Court hearing to determine whether lesser discipline is called for." (*In re Paguirigan* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 1, 7.) Disbarment is mandatory. (*Id.* at p. 9.)

We therefore recommend that Lawrence Edward Weitzman, State Bar number 43778, be disbarred from the practice of law in this state. We also recommend that Weitzman be ordered to comply with rule 9.20 of the California Rules of Court and to perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 days, respectively, after the effective date of the Supreme Court's order. Finally, we recommend that the costs be awarded to the State Bar

in accordance with section 6086.10 of the Business and Professions Code and that such costs be enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.



Presiding Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rule 62(b), Rules Proc.; Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of Los Angeles, on December 28, 2010, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

RECOMMENDATION OF SUMMARY DISBARMENT FILED DECEMBER 28, 2010

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

LAWRENCE EDWARD WEITZMAN
P O BOX 288
RESCUE, CA 95672 - 0288

by certified mail, No. , with return receipt requested, through the United States Postal Service at , California, addressed as follows:

by overnight mail at , California, addressed as follows:

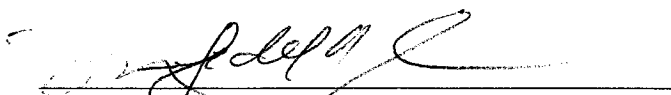
by fax transmission, at fax number . No error was reported by the fax machine that I used.

By personal service by leaving the documents in a sealed envelope or package clearly labeled to identify the attorney being served with a receptionist or a person having charge of the attorney's office, addressed as follows:

by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Donald Robert Steedman, Enforcement, San Francisco

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on December 28, 2010.



Milagro del R. Salméron
Case Administrator
State Bar Court