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#### **STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE LOS ANGELES

FEB 24 2015

## HEARING DEPARTMENT – LOS ANGELES

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In the Matter of
MICHAEL WELLS,
Member No. 48850,
A Member of the State Bar.

Case No.: 08-O-13832; 08-O-13834; 08-O-13877; 09-O-19166; 09-O-19448; 10-O-00300; 10-O-05172; 10-O-06097 (CONS.); 10-O-05983

### ORDER GRANTING REDUCTION IN COSTS AND PERMITTING INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

On January 29, 2015, Michael Wells ("Respondent"), filed a motion requesting relief from the order assessing disciplinary costs in the above-captioned matter on the grounds of financial hardship. On February 18, 2015, the State Bar of California, Office of the Chief Trial Counsel (State Bar), by and through Supervising Trial Counsel Michael Glass, filed an opposition to Respondent's motion asserting its objection to any order granting a waiver of assessed costs, but stating that it does not oppose an order placing Respondent on an installment plan with an acceleration clause.

Based on the court's review of the September 5, 2014 order granting Respondent's motion to extend probation, Respondent's motion and the State Bar's opposition thereto, the court finds that Respondent has established hardship, special circumstances, and other good



cause under rule 5.130(B) of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar as to warrant the following orders:

1. Respondent's motion for relief from payment of disciplinary costs is granted in part, and denied in part. The amount of costs assessed against Respondent is not completely waived, but reduced from approximately \$10,000 to \$9,000; and

2. Respondent is granted an extension of time to pay the reduced disciplinary costs. In view of Respondent's financial hardship, the court orders Respondent to pay the reduced disciplinary costs in three equal installments along with her membership fees commencing with the 2017 billing cycle. In accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10, one-third of the costs must be paid with Respondent's membership fees for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

It is further **ORDERED** that if Respondent fails to pay any installment of disciplinary costs within the time provided herein or as may be modified by the State Bar Court pursuant to section 6086.10, subdivision (c), the remaining balance of the costs is due and payable immediately unless relief has been granted under the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar of California. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 5.134.) The payment of costs is enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.

#### IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 3, 2015

YVETTE D. ROLAND Judge of the State Bar Court

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); 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 February 24, 2015, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

# ORDER GRANTING REDUCTION IN COSTS AND PERMITTING INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

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:

MICHAEL WELLS 9227 RESEDA BLVD STE 227 NORTHRIDGE, CA 91324

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

MICHAEL GLASS, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on February 24, 2015.

Ŵ Ami Johnnie Lee Smith Case Administrator State Bar Court