(Do not write above this line.)

	Bar Court of Californ Hearing Department Los Angeles ACTUAL SUSPENSION	nia	
Counsel For The State Bar	Case Number(s):	For Court use only	
Elizabeth Stine Deputy Trial Counsel	14-O-01548-PEM		
845 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 765-1342	UBLIC MATT	n –	
Bar # 256839		FILED	
In Pro Per Respondent	1	DEC 1 0 2015	
Jose Castillo Escano 4610 Eagle Rock Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90041 (323) 896-5227		STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	
	Submitted to: Assigned Jud	ige	
Bar # 204718	STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING		
In the Matter of: JOSE CASTILLO ESCANO	DIST CONTOUTANTS ON DELIV		
	ACTUAL SUSPENSION		
Bar # 204718	☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATIO	ON REJECTED	
A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)			

Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, must be set forth in an attachment to this stipulation under specific headings, e.g., "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law," "Supporting Authority," etc.

A. Parties' Acknowledgments:

- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted **December 7, 1999**.
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court.
- (3) All investigations or proceedings listed by case number in the caption of this stipulation are entirely resolved by this stipulation and are deemed consolidated. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation consists of **11** pages, not including the order.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."
- (5) Conclusions of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of Law".

(Do n	ot write	above this line.)			
(6)	The parties must include supporting authority for the recommended level of discipline under the heading "Supporting Authority."				
(7)	7) No more than 30 days prior to the filing of this stipulation, Respondent has been advised in writing of any pending investigation/proceeding not resolved by this stipulation, except for criminal investigations.				
(8)	Payment of Disciplinary Costs—Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & 6140.7. (Check one option only):				
	 Until costs are paid in full, Respondent will remain actually suspended from the practice of law unless relief is obtained per rule 5.130, Rules of Procedure. Costs are to be paid in equal amounts prior to February 1 for the following membership years: Three billing cycles immediately following the effective date of the Supreme Court order in this matter. (Hardship, special circumstances or other good cause per rule 5.132, Rules of Procedure.) If Respondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified by the State Bar Court, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately. □ Costs are waived in part as set forth in a separate attachment entitled "Partial Waiver of Costs". □ Costs are entirely waived. 				
N	Aggr Nisc equi	avating Circumstances [Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional onduct, standards 1.2(h) & 1.5]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances are red.			
(1)	□ (a)	Prior record of discipline State Bar Court case # of prior case			
	(b)	☐ Date prior discipline effective			
	(c)	Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations:			
	(d)	☐ Degree of prior discipline			
	(e)	If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below.			
(2)		Intentional/Bad Faith/Dishonesty: Respondent's misconduct was dishonest, intentional, or surrounded by, or followed by bad faith.			
(3)		Misrepresentation: Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by, misrepresentation.			
(4)		Concealment: Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by, concealment.			
(5)		Overreaching: Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by, or followed by, overreaching.			
(6)		Uncharged Violations: Respondent's conduct involves uncharged violations of the Business and Professions Code, or the Rules of Professional Conduct.			
(7)		Trust Violation: Trust funds or property were involved and Respondent refused or was unable to account to the client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or property.			

(Do not write above this line.)					
(8)		Harm: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public, or the administration of justice.			
(9)		Indifference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the			
(10)		consequences of his or her misconduct. Candor/Lack of Cooperation: Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of his/her misconduct, or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigations or proceedings.			
(11)		Multiple Acts: Respondent's current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing.			
(12)		Pattern: Respondent's current misconduct demonstrates a pattern of misconduct.			
(13)		Restitution: Respondent failed to make restitution.			
(14)		Vulnerable Victim: The victim(s) of Respondent's misconduct was/were highly vulnerable.			
(15)	\boxtimes	No aggravating circumstances are involved.			
Addi	itiona	al aggravating circumstances:			
C. N	/litig	ating Circumstances [see standards 1.2(i) & 1.6]. Facts supporting mitigating mustances are required.			
(1)		No Prior Discipline: Respondent has no prior record of discipline over many years of practice coupled with present misconduct which is not likely to recur.			
(2)		No Harm: Respondent did not harm the client, the public, or the administration of justice.			
(3)		Candor/Cooperation: Respondent displayed spontaneous candor and cooperation with the victims of his/her misconduct or `to the State Bar during disciplinary investigations and proceedings.			
(4)		Remorse: Respondent promptly took objective steps demonstrating spontaneous remorse and recognition of the wrongdoing, which steps were designed to timely atone for any consequences of his/her misconduct.			
(5)		Restitution: Respondent paid \$ on in restitution to without the threat or force of disciplinary, civil or criminal proceedings.			
(6)		Delay: These disciplinary proceedings were excessively delayed. The delay is not attributable to Respondent and the delay prejudiced him/her.			
(7)		Good Faith: Respondent acted with a good faith belief that was honestly held and objectively reasonable.			
(8)		Emotional/Physical Difficulties: At the time of the stipulated act or acts of professional misconduct Respondent suffered extreme emotional difficulties or physical or mental disabilities which expert testimony would establish was directly responsible for the misconduct. The difficulties or disabilities were not the product of any illegal conduct by the member, such as illegal drug or substance abuse, and the difficulties or disabilities no longer pose a risk that Respondent will commit misconduct.			

(Do no	ot write	e above	this lir	ne.)
(9)		whic	h resu	nancial Stress: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered from severe financial stress alted from circumstances not reasonably foreseeable or which were beyond his/her control and e directly responsible for the misconduct.
(10)		Family Problems: At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered extreme difficulties in his/her personal life which were other than emotional or physical in nature.		
(11)				rracter: Respondent's extraordinarily good character is attested to by a wide range of references I and general communities who are aware of the full extent of his/her misconduct.
(12)				ition: Considerable time has passed since the acts of professional misconduct occurred y convincing proof of subsequent rehabilitation.
(13)		No r	nitiga	ting circumstances are involved.
Addi	itiona	al mit	igatin	g circumstances:
	N	o Pri	or Dis	cipline and Pretrial Stipulation, See Attachment at page 8.
D. C)isci	plin	e :	
(1)	\boxtimes	Stay	ed Su	spension:
	(a)	\boxtimes	Resp	condent must be suspended from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year.
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the general law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1) Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:
	(b)		The	above-referenced suspension is stayed.
(2)	\boxtimes	Probation:		
				ust be placed on probation for a period of one (1) year , which will commence upon the effective reme Court order in this matter. (See rule 9.18, California Rules of Court)
(3)	\boxtimes	Actu	ıal Su	spension:
	(a)	\boxtimes		condent must be actually suspended from the practice of law in the State of California for a period kty (60) days .
		i.		and until Respondent shows proof satisfactory to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation and fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the general law pursuant to standard 1.2(c)(1), Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct
		ii.		and until Respondent pays restitution as set forth in the Financial Conditions form attached to this stipulation.
		iii.		and until Respondent does the following:

Law Office Management Conditions

(10) The following conditions are attached hereto and incorporated:

Substance Abuse Conditions

(Do not write above this line.)				
	N 41	Medical Conditions		Financial Conditions
۲. ر	tner	Conditions Negotiated by the Parties	3:	
(1)		the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exa Conference of Bar Examiners, to the Office of one year, whichever period is longer. Failure	mination Proba to pas	on: Respondent must provide proof of passage of on ("MPRE"), administered by the National tion during the period of actual suspension or within as the MPRE results in actual suspension without o), California Rules of Court, and rule 5.162(A) &
		☐ No MPRE recommended. Reason:		
(2)		California Rules of Court, and perform the acts	s speci	must comply with the requirements of rule 9.20 , ified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 e date of the Supreme Court's Order in this matter.
(3)		days or more, he/she must comply with the re-	quirem and (c)	If Respondent remains actually suspended for 90 ents of rule 9.20 , California Rules of Court, and of that rule within 120 and 130 calendar days, Court's Order in this matter.
(4)		Credit for Interim Suspension [conviction r period of his/her interim suspension toward the commencement of interim suspension:		I cases only]: Respondent will be credited for the lated period of actual suspension. Date of
(5)		Other Conditions:		

ATTACHMENT TO

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOSE CASTILLO ESCANO

CASE NUMBER:

14-0-01548

FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that he is culpable of the violation of the specified statute.

Case No. 14-O-01548 (State Bar Investigation)

FACTS:

- 1. As a member of the State Bar of California, Respondent was required to complete 25 hours of minimum continuing legal education ("MCLE") during the period commencing on February 1, 2010 and ending on January 31, 2013 ("compliance period").
- 2. On July 1, 2013, Respondent reported to the State Bar under penalty of perjury that he had completed all 25 required hours of MCLE during the compliance period.
 - 3. In fact, Respondent had not completed any hours of MCLE within the compliance period.
- 4. When Respondent reported to the State Bar under penalty of perjury that he was in compliance with the MCLE requirement, Respondent knew that he had not completed the necessary MCLE hours during the compliance period, as required.
- 5. Subsequently, in November 2013, Respondent completed the MCLE hours necessary to come into compliance after being contacted by the State Bar's Office of Member Records and Compliance regarding an audit of his MCLE compliance.
- 6. On April 8, 2014, May 5, 2014, June 4, 2014, July 10, 2014, and July 18, 2014, the State Bar sent an investigation letter to Respondent requesting a written response to the allegation that he misrepresented his compliance with his MCLE hours during the reporting period, and requesting proof of completion.
- 7. To date, Respondent has failed to provide a response to the allegations as set forth in the State Bar's investigative letters.

CONCLUSION OF LAW:

8. By reporting under the penalty of perjury to the State Bar that he had fully complied with the MCLE requirements for the compliance period, when Respondent knew that he had failed to complete the MCLE requirement for the compliance period, Respondent committed an act involving dishonesty in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6106.

9. By failing to respond to the investigator's letters, Respondent failed to cooperate and participate in a disciplinary investigation pending against him in willful violation of Business and Professions Code section 6068(i).

AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

None.

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

No Prior Record of Discipline: Respondent has been a member of the State Bar since December 7, 1999. Respondent had practiced law for over 13 years without a prior record of discipline when the misconduct herein occurred. (*Hawes v. State Bar* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 587, 596 [more than ten years of discipline-free practice entitled to significant mitigation].)

Pretrial Stipulation: Respondent is entitled to mitigating credit for entering into this stipulation as to facts and conclusions of law, thereby obviating the need for trial and saving State Bar resources. (Silva-Vidor v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 1071, 1079 [where mitigating credit was given for entering into a stipulation as to facts and culpability].)

AUTHORITIES SUPPORTING DISCIPLINE.

The Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct "set forth a means for determining the appropriate disciplinary sanction in a particular case and to ensure consistency across cases dealing with similar misconduct and surrounding circumstances." (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, std. 1.1. All further references to Standards are to this source.) The Standards help fulfill the primary purposes of discipline, which include: protection of the public, the courts and the legal profession; maintenance of the highest professional standards; and preservation of public confidence in the legal profession. (See std. 1.1; *In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184, 205.)

Although not binding, the Standards are entitled to "great weight" and should be followed "whenever possible" in determining level of discipline. (In re Silverton (2005) 36 Cal.4th 81, 92, quoting In re Brown (1995) 12 Cal.4th 205, 220 and In re Young (1989) 49 Cal.3d 257, 267, fn. 11.) Adherence to the Standards in the great majority of cases serves the valuable purpose of eliminating disparity and assuring consistency, that is, the imposition of similar attorney discipline for instances of similar attorney misconduct. (In re Naney (1990) 51 Cal.3d 186, 190.) If a recommendation is at the high end or low end of a Standard, an explanation must be given as to how the recommendation was reached. (Std. 1.1.) "Any disciplinary recommendation that deviates from the Standards must include clear reasons for the departure." (Std. 1.1; Blair v. State Bar (1989) 49 Cal.3d 762, 776, fn. 5.)

In determining whether to impose a sanction greater or less than that specified in a given Standard, in addition to the factors set forth in the specific Standard, consideration is to be given to the primary purposes of discipline; the balancing of all aggravating and mitigating circumstances; the type of misconduct at issue; whether the client, public, legal system or profession was harmed; and the member's willingness and ability to conform to ethical responsibilities in the future. (Stds. 1.7(b) and (c).)

Standard 1.7(a) further provides that, "If a member commits two or more acts of misconduct and the Standards specify different sanctions for each act, the most severe sanction must be imposed." Here,

Respondent has committed two separate acts of misconduct. The most severe sanction applicable is Standard 2.11, which provides:

Disbarment or actual suspension is the presumed sanction for an act of moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, corruption, intentional or grossly negligent misrepresentation, or concealment of material fact. The degree of sanction depends on the magnitude of the misconduct; the extent to which the misconduct harmed or misled the victim, which may include the adjudicator; the impact on the administration of justice, if any; and the extent to which the misconduct related to the member's practice of law.

Here, Respondent's misrepresentation, made under penalty of perjury, was an intentional act of dishonesty. Misrepresentations are compounded when made in writing under penalty of perjury, which includes an imprimatur of veracity which should place a reasonable person on notice to take care that their statement is accurate, complete, and true. (In the Matter of Maloney and Virsik (Review Dept. 2005) 4 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 774, 786.) When respondent stated under penalty of perjury on July 1, 2013 that he complied with his MCLE requirements of completing 25 hours of MCLE courses during the compliance period, Respondent knew he was not in compliance. Moreover, Respondent's misconduct pertaining to the MCLE requirements circumvented the continuing legal educational requirements established for the purpose of enhancing attorney competence and protecting the public. For these reasons, Respondent's misconduct is serious, relates directly to the practice of law, and undermines public confidence in the profession. In addition, Respondent failed to cooperate with the State Bar investigation by failing to provide written responses to the allegations.

Although related to the practice of law, Respondent's failure to accurately report his MCLE compliance was a one-time error that is mitigated by over 13 years of legal practice without prior discipline. Respondent's misconduct caused no harm to his clients or the public. Furthermore, Respondent completed 25 MCLE credit hours in November 2013, albeit outside the reporting period. Additionally, with this stipulation, Respondent is acknowledging the wrongfulness of the misconduct.

Nevertheless, Respondent's conduct in certifying his MCLE hours was an act of moral turpitude and he should therefore receive a period of actual suspension from the practice of law. In addition, Respondent has failed to cooperate in the State Bar's investigation into his alleged misconduct in this matter, despite being given numerous opportunities to do so. Due to the mitigating circumstances present and the lack of aggravating circumstances, a discipline at the lower end of the range suggested by Standard 2.11 is appropriate. Thus, a one (1) year stayed suspension and one (1) year probation with conditions including a sixty (60) day actual suspension will serve to protect the public, the courts and the legal profession; maintain the highest professional standards; and preserve public confidence in the legal profession.

Case law also supports this result. In *In the Matter of Yee* (Review Dept. 2014) 5 Cal. State Bar Ct. Rptr. 330, the attorney was found culpable of moral turpitude based on gross negligence in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6106 when she affirmed that she had completed the required 25 hours of MCLE when, in fact, she had not taken any MCLE courses during the relevant reporting period. The attorney mistakenly recalled that she had completed the courses, and did not check or maintain any records to confirm if her recollection was accurate. When she was randomly audited by the State Bar, she corrected her error and submitted proper proof of compliance. The circumstances in *Yee* were less serious than those present here.

Like the attorney in Yee, Respondent completed the required MCLE hours after the audit. However, unlike the attorney in Yee, Respondent engaged in additional misconduct by failing to cooperate with the State Bar investigation. Respondent also has much less mitigation than that in Yee. Accordingly, a greater level of discipline than the public reproval that was imposed in Yee is appropriate in the present matter.

COSTS OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Respondent acknowledges that the Office of the Chief Trial Counsel has informed Respondent that as of December 1, 2015, the prosecution costs in this matter are approximately \$3,066. Respondent further acknowledges that should this stipulation be rejected or should relief from the stipulation be granted, the costs in this matter may increase due to the cost of further proceedings.

EXCLUSION FROM MCLE CREDIT

Pursuant to rule 3201, Respondent may <u>not</u> receive MCLE credit for completion of Ethics School ordered as a condition of discipline. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 3201.)

(Do not write above this line.)			
In the Matter of: JOSE CASTILLO ESCANO SBN 204718	Case number(s): 14-O-01548-PEM		
SBR 2547 TO			

SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES

By their signatures below, the parties and their counsel, as applicable, signify their agreement with each of the recitations and each of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation Re Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition.

12/04/2015 Date	(werc	Jose Castillo Escano	
Date	Respondent's Signature	Print Name	
Date	Respondent's Counsel Signature	Print Name	
\2-2-\5	() S S :	Elizabeth Stine	
Date	Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	Print Name	

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY REGULAR MAIL

CASE NUMBER: 14-O-01548-PEM

I, the undersigned, over the age of eighteen (18) years, whose business address and place of employment is the State Bar of California, 845 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California 90017, declare that I am not a party to the within action; that I am readily familiar with the State Bar of California's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service; that in the ordinary course of the State Bar of California's practice, correspondence collected and processed by the State Bar of California would be deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day; that I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date on the envelope or package is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing contained in the affidavit; and that in accordance with the practice of the State Bar of California for collection and processing of mail, I deposited or placed for collection and mailing in the City and County of Los Angeles, on the date shown below, a true copy of the within

9

10

1

2

3

5

7

8

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

11 12

in a sealed envelope placed for collection and mailing at Los Angeles, on the date shown below, addressed to:

13

Jose Castillo Escano 4610 Eagle Rock Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90041

15

14

And via email: joegoboy@hotmail.com

16

in an inter-office mail facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed to:

17

- -

N/A

18

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Los Angeles, California, on the date shown below.

19

DATED: December 2, 2015

Signed:__

Lape Pacheco Declarant

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

		ove this line.)	
In the Matter of: Jose Castillo Escano SBN 204178			Case Number(s): 14-O-01548-PEM
		ACTUAL SI	JSPENSION ORDER
		tipulation to be fair to the parties and tha smissal of counts/charges, if any, is GRA	t it adequately protects the public, IT IS ORDERED that the NTED without prejudice, and:
		The stipulated facts and disposition are Supreme Court.	APPROVED and the DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDED to the
		The stipulated facts and disposition are DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED to the	APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set forth below, and the e Supreme Court.
	\boxtimes	All Hearing dates are vacated.	
1. 2.			
within 'stipulat	15 day tion. (S Supre	s after service of this order, is granted; of See rule 5.58(E) & (F), Rules of Procedu	unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the stipulation, filed or 2) this court modifies or further modifies the approved re.) The effective date of this disposition is the effective date ays after file date. (See rule 9.18(a), California Rules of
Date	cem		PAT E. MCELROY udge 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 San Francisco, On December 10, 2015, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DISPOSITION AND ORDER APPROVING

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 San Francisco, California, addressed as follows:

JOSE C. ESCANO 4606 EAGLE ROCK BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90041

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

Elizabeth G. Stine, Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in San Francisco, California, on December 10, 2015.

Lauretta Cramer

Case Administrator State Bar Court