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BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re
BETSY ROSS HOLLINGSWORTH,
Lawyer (Bar No. 6181).

Proceeding No.
ODC File No. 17-01340
RESIGNATION FORM OF Betsy Ross
Hollingsworth (ELC 9.3(b))

I, Betsy Ross Hollingsworth, declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen years and am competent. I make the statements in this declaration from personal knowledge.
2. I was admitted to practice law in the State of Washington on November 6, 1975.
3. I have voluntarily decided to resign from the Washington State Bar Association (the Association) in Lieu of Discipline under Rule 9.3 of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC).
4. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is Disciplinary Counsel's statement of alleged misconduct for purposes of ELC 9.3(b). I am aware of the alleged misconduct stated in Disciplinary Counsel's statement but, rather than defend against the allegations, I wish to

1 | permanently resign from membership in the Association.

2 | 5. Under ELC 9.3(f), I consent to the entry of an order under ELC 13.9(e) assessing
3 | expenses of \$1,500 in this matter.

4 | 6. I understand that my resignation is permanent, and that any future application by
5 | me for reinstatement as a member of the Association is currently barred. If the Supreme Court
6 | changes this rule, or if an application is otherwise permitted in the future, it will be treated as an
7 | application by one who has been disbarred for ethical misconduct. If I file an application, I will
8 | not be entitled to a reconsideration or reexamination of the facts, complaints, allegations, or
9 | instances of alleged misconduct on which this resignation was based.

10 | 7. I agree to (a) notify all other states and jurisdictions in which I am admitted of this
11 | resignation in lieu of discipline; (b) seek to resign permanently from the practice of law in all
12 | such states and jurisdictions; and (c) provide Disciplinary Counsel with copies of such
13 | notification(s) and any response(s). I acknowledge that this resignation could be treated as a
14 | disbarment by all other jurisdictions.

15 | 8. I agree to (a) notify all other professional licensing agencies in any jurisdiction
16 | from which I have a professional license that is predicated on my admission to practice law of
17 | this resignation in lieu of discipline; (b) seek to resign permanently from any such license; and
18 | (c) provide Disciplinary Counsel with copies of such notification(s) and any response(s).

19 | 9. I agree that when applying for any employment, I will disclose this resignation in
20 | lieu of discipline in response to any question regarding disciplinary action or the status of my
21 | license to practice law.

22 | 10. I understand that my resignation becomes effective on Disciplinary Counsel's
23 | endorsement and filing of this document with the Clerk, and that under ELC 9.3(c) Disciplinary

1 Counsel must do so promptly following receipt of this document.

2 11. When my resignation becomes effective, I agree to be subject to all restrictions that
3 apply to a disbarred lawyer.

4 12. Upon filing of my resignation, I agree to comply with the same duties as a
5 disbarred lawyer under ELC 14.1 through ELC 14.4.

6 13. I understand that, after my resignation becomes effective, it is permanent. I will
7 never be eligible to apply and will not be considered for admission or reinstatement to the
8 practice of law nor will I be eligible for admission for any limited practice of law.

9 14. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that
10 the foregoing is true and correct.

11 November 10, 2017
Date and Place
12 Phoenix AZ

Betsy Ross Hollingsworth
Betsy Ross Hollingsworth,
Bar No. 6181

13 ENDORSED BY:

14 Scott G. Busby
15 Scott G. Busby, Senior Disciplinary Counsel
Bar No. 17522

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BEFORE THE
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WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re
BETSY ROSS HOLLINGSWORTH,
Lawyer (Bar No. 6181).

Proceeding No.
ODC File No. 17-01340
STATEMENT OF ALLEGED
MISCONDUCT UNDER ELC 9.3(b)(1)

The following constitutes Disciplinary Counsel’s Statement of Alleged Misconduct under Rule 9.3(b)(1) of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC).

I. ADMISSION TO PRACTICE

1. Respondent Betsy Ross Hollingsworth was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Washington on November 6, 1975.

II. ALLEGED FACTS

2. On September 8, 2011, the Last Will and Testament of Anita Sonia Mocerri was admitted to probate in In re Estate of Anita Sonia Mocerri, Pierce County Superior Court No. 11-4-01391-2, and Respondent was confirmed as personal representative of the estate.

3. In her will, Ms. Mocerri made four specific bequests: one to Respondent in the

1 amount of \$10,000, and three to charitable organizations in amounts totaling \$105,000.

2 4. Ms. Mocerri left the remainder of her estate in equal parts to two residual
3 beneficiaries: the Northwest Sinfonietta and the King County Bar Foundation Minority
4 Scholarship Foundation.

5 5. Respondent made the following disbursements of estate funds from the U.S. Bank
6 account in the name of "Estate of Anita S. Mocerri, Betsy R. Hollingsworth, Exec.:"

Date	Payee	Amount
11/22/2011	Betsy Hollingsworth	10,000.00
3/3/2012	Betsy Hollingsworth	40,007.00
3/3/2012	Cash	1,500.00
3/19/2012	Yolanda Bailey	28,500.00
4/30/2012	Betsy Hollingsworth	10,000.00
5/8/2012	Betsy Hollingsworth	10,000.00
5/17/2012	Yolanda Bailey	5,000.00
5/21/2012	Yolanda Bailey	5,000.00
6/8/2012	Yolanda Bailey	15,000.00
6/26/2012	Betsy Hollingsworth	25,000.00
8/10/2012	Betsy Hollingsworth	20,000.00
		170,007.00

14 6. Respondent and Yolanda Bailey resided at the same address.

15 7. Other than the \$10,000 bequest to Respondent referenced above in paragraph 3,
16 Respondent was not authorized to make these disbursements of estate funds to herself or to
17 Yolanda Bailey.

18 8. Other than the \$10,000 bequest to Respondent referenced above in paragraph 3,
19 neither Respondent nor Yolanda Bailey was entitled to receive the estate funds disbursed to
20 them.

21 9. On June 22, 2017, the King County Bar Foundation, a residual beneficiary of the
22 estate, moved for revocation of Respondent's authority to act as personal representative.
23

1 10. By orders entered June 23, 2017 and July 21, 2017, the Pierce County Superior
2 Court revoked Respondent's authority to act as personal representative, appointed a successor
3 personal representative, and ordered Respondent to provide a full and final accounting of her
4 actions as personal representative by July 31, 2017.

5 11. Respondent has not provided an accounting of her actions as personal
6 representative of the estate.

7 12. On August 14, 2017, the attorney for the court-appointed successor personal
8 representative filed a grievance alleging that Respondent had made disbursements of estate
9 assets to herself and Yolanda Bailey that she was not authorized to make.

10 13. On August 18, 2017, the undersigned Disciplinary Counsel sent Respondent a
11 Request for Response to Grievance under ELC 5.3(g). Disciplinary Counsel requested
12 Respondent's response to the grievance along with an explanation of each of the disbursements
13 listed above in paragraph 5 and the full accounting that was previously ordered by the Pierce
14 County Superior Court.

15 14. Respondent received the August 18, 2017 Request for Response to Grievance, but
16 she did not provide any response.

17 15. On September 20, 2017, the undersigned Disciplinary Counsel sent Respondent a
18 notice under ELC 5.3(h). Disciplinary Counsel notified Respondent (a) that no response to the
19 Request for Response to Grievance had been received, (b) that under ELC 5.3(h) she must
20 provide a response within ten days, and (c) that failing to cooperate with an investigation might
21 subject her to interim suspension under ELC 7.2(a)(3).

22 16. Respondent received the September 20, 2017 ELC 5.3(h) notice, but she did not
23 provide any response.

1 **III. ALLEGED MISCONDUCT.**

2 17. By using, converting, borrowing or pledging estate property for her own use,
3 Respondent violated Rule 1.15A(b) of the Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC).

4 18. By committing a criminal act (theft in the first degree, in violation of RCW
5 9A.56.030), that reflects adversely on her honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer,
6 Respondent violated RPC 8.4(b).

7 19. By engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation,
8 Respondent violated RPC 8.4(c).

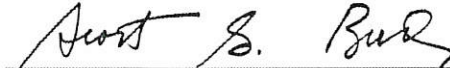
9 20. By committing an act involving moral turpitude or corruption that reflects
10 disregard for the rule of law, Respondent violated RPC 8.4(i).

11 21. By willfully disobeying or violating a court order directing her to do an act that she
12 ought in good faith to do, Respondent violated RPC 8.4(j).

13 22. By violating a duty imposed by or under ELC 5.3 in connection with a disciplinary
14 matter, and/or by knowingly failing to respond to a lawful demand for information from a
15 disciplinary authority, Respondent violated RPC 8.1(b) and/or 8.4(l).

16 23. By engaging in conduct demonstrating unfitness to practice law, Respondent
17 violated RPC 8.4(n).

18 DATED this 3rd day of November, 2017.

19
20 
21 Scott G. Busby, Bar No. 17522
Senior Disciplinary Counsel