

# BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re

## JEFFREY T. HALEY,

Lawyer (Bar No. 9526).

Proceeding No. 13#00055

RESIGNATION IN LIEU OF DISCIPLINE (ELC 9.3(b))

Jeffrey T. Haley, being duly sworn, hereby attests to the following:

- 1. I am over the age of eighteen years and am competent. I make the statements in this affidavit from personal knowledge.
  - 2. I was admitted to practice law in the State of Washington on October 30, 1979.
- 3. I was served with a Formal Complaint and Notice to Answer in this matter on August 20, 2013.
- 4. I have voluntarily decided to resign from the Washington State Bar Association (the Association) under Rule 9.3 of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC) in lieu of defending against disputed allegations of misconduct.
  - 5. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is Disciplinary Counsel's statement of alleged

Affidavit of Respondent Page 1

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
OF THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
1325 4th Avenue, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101-2539
(206) 727-8207

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misconduct under ELC 9.3(b)(1). I am aware of the allegations of misconduct set forth in Disciplinary Counsel's statement of alleged misconduct, and rather than defend against these allegations, I wish to permanently resign from membership in the Association in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is my statement of reasons why I dispute the allegations of misconduct.

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

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7. I agree (a) to notify all other jurisdictions in which I am or have been admitted to (none)

practice law of this resignation in lieu of discipline; (b) to seek to resign permanently from the (none)

practice of law in any other jurisdiction in which I am admitted; (c) to provide Disciplinary (none)

Counsel with copies of any of these notifications and any responses; and (d) to acknowledge that this resignation could be treated as a disbarment by all other jurisdictions. There are no other jurisdictions in which I am or have been admitted to practice law.

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8. I agree (a) to notify all other professional licensing agencies in any jurisdiction from which I have a professional license that is predicated on my admission to practice law of this resignation in lieu of discipline; (b) to seek to resign permanently from any such license; and (c) to provide disciplinary counsel with copies of any of these notifications and any (none) responses. There are no other professional licensing agencies in any jurisdiction from which I

have a professional license that is predicated on my admission to practice law.

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24 | Affidavit of Respondent Page 2

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1	16. I certify under penalty of perjury under	the laws of the State of Washington that
2	the foregoing is true and correct.	11-11
3	1/2/14 Selbrue	Ull THalley
4	าแ	ffrey T. Haley, Bar No. 9526
5	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this Notary Public	day of www, 2012.
6	1	ARY PUBLIC for the state of
	MY COMMISSION EXPIRES July 29, 2016 Wash	ARY PUBLIC for the state of ington, residing at
7	My co	ommission expires 14,19,1014
8	ENDORSED BY:	
9	My &	
10	Scott G. Busby, Senior Disciplinary Counsel Bar No. 17522	
11	But 140. 17322	
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24	Affidavit of Respondent	OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
- ' !	Page 4 OF	THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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8		ARY BOARD THE	
	WASHINGTON STAT	TE BAR ASSOCIATION	* .
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10	In re	Proceeding No. 13#00055	
11	JEFFREY T. HALEY,	STATEMENT OF ALLEGED	
11	Lawyer (Bar No. 9526).	MISCONDUCT UNDER ELC 9.3	3(b)(1)
12	Lawyer (Bai No. 9320).		
13			
14	The attached Formal Complaint, filed of	on August 14, 2013, in Proceeding No	. 13#00055,
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15	constitutes Disciplinary Counsel's statement of	of alleged misconduct under Rule 9.30	U)(1) Of the
16	Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (EI	LC).	
17	DATED this 5th day of Decem	-her, 2013.	
		The second secon	
18			
19		Scott G. Busby, Bar No. 17522	
20		Scott G. Dubby, Dat 1101 21 2	
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22	FVUIDIT	A	
23	EXHIBIT_	of 4	
24	Statement of Alleged Misconduct	OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COU	NSEL
24	Page 1	OF THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR AS 1325-4th Avenue, Suite 600	SSOCIATION
		Seattle, WA 98101-2539 (206) 727-8207	

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In re

JEFFREY THORNTON HALEY,

Lawyer (Bar No. 9526).

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Formal Complaint Page 1 EXHIBIT A

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WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION 1325 4th Avenue, Suite 600

Seattle, WA 98101-2539 (206) 727-8207

BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Proceeding No. 13#00055

FORMAL COMPLAINT

Under Rule 10.3 of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC), the Washington State Bar Association (the Association) charges the above-named lawyer with acts of misconduct under the Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) as set forth below.

## ADMISSION TO PRACTICE

- 1. Respondent Jeffrey Thornton Haley was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Washington on October 30, 1979.
- 2. In June 2006, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for nonpayment of dues.
- 3. In July 2006, Respondent was suspended for one year under ELC 13.3 for violating RPC 1.8(a), 1.8(e), and 1.8(h).
  - Respondent has remained in a suspended status since June 2006.

(206) 727-8207

FACTS REGARDING COUNT 1

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1325 4th Avenue, Suite 600

Seattle, WA-98101-2539 (206) 727-8207

Formal Complaint

Page 3

because he had not prevailed at arbitration on his claim for attorney fees and arbitration costs.

#### **EXHIBIT B**

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In re:

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#### BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF THE WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

JEFFREY T. HALEY,

Proceeding No. 13#00055

Lawyer

WSBA No. 9526

HALEY'S STATEMENT OF REASONS
WHY HE DISPUTES THE ALLEGATIONS

The WSBA asserts that I have no right to warn others against dealing with a former partner who has unjustly cost me money unless I am legally entitled to a judgment against that former partner. According to the WSBA, if the former partner successfully asserts a legal defense and has no legal obligation to reimburse my cost, it is wrongful for me to warn others against the risk of dealing with this unscrupulous person. The WSBA's position is that, if I ask the former partner to reimburse the cost I have suffered and inform the former partner that, if my cost is not reimbursed, I will warn others against dealing with this person, as I feel I have a moral duty to do, it is criminal extortion.

The WSBA's position is wrong on the law. When people feel screwed by any business, they have a First Amendment right to inform others of their views, whether or not they could win a judgment against the business in a court of law. They also have a right to tell the business that, if the business reimburses the cost they have suffered, they will have no grounds for complaint and will not publish a negative review. If the business feels the claim

HALEY'S STATEMENT OF REASONS WHY HE DISPUTES THE ALLEGATIONS – 1 Jeffrey T Haley 13434 SE 27<sup>th</sup> Pl Bellevue, WA 98005 206 919 1798

EXHIBIT B

is unjust, it has the right to refuse to pay the cost and let the negative review be published. The business can then publish their own statement of reasons why they think the claim is unjust.

The right to publish a negative review when a person feels screwed by a business, whether or not a court would give them a judgment, is essential to freedom of speech. The proper remedy for speech that a party claims is wrong is more speech. It is not to recruit a government regulatory body to silence the speaker with threats of an expensive disputed proceeding. In this matter, the WSBA is siding with a group of its members against an outsider – a person who is not a member and has no desire to be a member – and bringing the weight of its resources against that outsider to silence his criticism of the members.

The right to publish a negative review when a person feels screwed by a business, whether or not a court would give them a judgment, is also essential to maintaining a high level of ethics by businesses. The WSBA's position would undermine the level of business ethics in Washington state.

I ceased the practice of law in 2006 and I have no desire to resume the practice of law. It is not worth the trouble for me to go through a disputed proceeding on this matter, so I hereby permanently resign my former membership which has been in suspension for more than seven years.

Jeffrey T. Haley

HALEY'S STATEMENT OF REASONS WHY HE DISPUTES THE ALLEGATIONS – 2

EXHIBIT B
Page 1 of Y

Jeffrey T Haley 13434 SE 27<sup>th</sup> Pl Bellevue, WA 98005 206 919 1798