

FILED
MAR 16 2018
DISCIPLINARY
BOARD

BEFORE THE
DISCIPLINARY BOARD
OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

In re
PAUL JAMES BURNS,
Lawyer (WSBA No.13320)

Proceeding No. 15#00070
DISCIPLINARY BOARD ORDER
ADOPTING IN PART AND MODIFYING
IN PART HEARING OFFICER'S
DECISION

This matter came before the Disciplinary Board at its March 2, 2018 meeting, on review of Hearing Officer William E. Fitzharris' Amended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Recommendation of Hearing Officer. The Hearing Officer recommended disbarment following a hearing.

The Board reviews the Hearing Officer's findings of fact for substantial evidence. The Board reviews conclusions of law and sanction recommendations de novo. Evidence not presented to the Hearing Officer cannot be considered by the Board. ELC 11.12(b). On review, the Board may adopt, modify or reverse the findings, conclusions or recommendations of the Hearing Officer. ELC 11.12(d).

Having reviewed the materials submitted, and considered the applicable case law and rules;

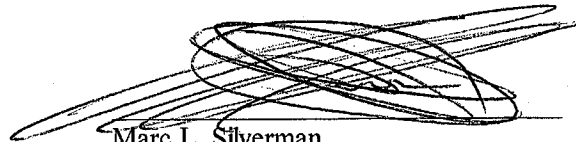
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Hearing Officer's decision is adopted in its entirety with the following exceptions:

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1. The Hearing Officer's Conclusion of Law ¶ 4.5B is stricken.
2. The Hearing Officer's Conclusion of Law ¶ 4.13 is modified to read as follows:
By making intentionally false and misleading statements in his 4/18/13 letter to State Farm, Respondent violated RPC 8.4(c) (engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation).¹

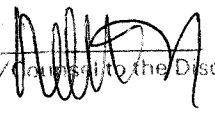
Dated this 15th day of March, 2018



Marc L. Silverman
Disciplinary Board Chair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I caused a copy of the BOARD ORDER ADOPTING IN PART & MODIFYING
 to be delivered to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and to be mailed IN PART TO'S
DICK RUTZEN Respondent's Counsel IBOS YAKOMA RW 4302 TACOMA, WA 98408 DECISION
 by certified/first class mail.
 postage prepaid on the 15th day of MARCH, 2018


 Clerk/Counsel to the Disciplinary Board

¹ The vote was 12-0. Those voting were: Silverman, Cornelius, Allen, Patneau, Startzel, Byerly, Rawlings, Graber, Wang, Value, Harrington, and Vovos. Louvier recused and Denton did not participate.