



WSBA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

Debra Slater
Disciplinary Counsel

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June 25, 2015

Mark DeCoursey
8209 172nd Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052

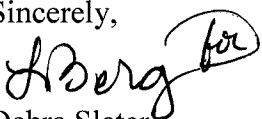
Re: ODC Files:
14-01156 against Grant Degginger
14-01157 against Ryan McBride
14-01158 against Robert Sulkin
14-01159 against Malaika Eaton

Dear Mr. DeCoursey:

We received the enclosed information dated June 18, 2015 on behalf of the above-referenced attorneys.

Under the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct, we are providing the information to you. A Review Committee of the Disciplinary Board will consider the information.

Sincerely,


Debra Slater
Disciplinary Counsel

Enclosure

cc: Grant Degginger (w/o enclosure)
Ryan McBride (w/o enclosure)
Robert Sulkin (w/o enclosure)
Malaika Eaton (w/o enclosure)

JUN 18 2015

LAW OFFICES OF
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June 18, 2015

HAND DELIVERED

Review Committee of the Disciplinary Board
Office of Disciplinary Counsel
c/o Ms. Debra Slater
Washington State Bar Association
1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 600
Seattle, Washington 98101-2539

Re: **ODC File Nos. 14-01156; 14-01157; 14-01158; 14-01159**
Grievants: Mark and Carol DeCoursey
Respondents: Robert M. Sulkin, Malaika M. Eaton,
Ryan P. McBride, and Grant S. Degginger

Dear Members of the WSBA Review Committee:

Please consider this letter to be the written response on behalf of Lane Powell and its attorneys, Ryan P. McBride and Grant S. Degginger (collectively "Lane Powell"), and McNaul Ebel Nawrot & Helgren PLLC, and its attorneys Robert M. Sulkin and Malaika M. Eaton (collectively "McNaul Ebel") to the appeal from Mark and Carol DeCoursey of the dismissal of their grievance. To be blunt, the DeCourseys' appeal lacks merit.

The DeCourseys mischaracterize both the underlying facts and Lane Powell's and McNaul Ebel's response to their grievance. The facts show, first, that Lane Powell's representation of the DeCourseys was in compliance with the RPC and, indeed, the firm achieved excellent results on the DeCourseys' behalf: Lane Powell obtained a settlement against one defendant for over \$200,000; successfully represented the DeCourseys at trial, obtaining a judgment of over \$500,000 in damages, and nearly \$500,000 in attorney fees (including a 30 percent multiplier); and defended the win on appeal, obtaining further fee awards at both the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court level. Lane Powell even agreed to forbear from collecting outstanding amounts owed until the DeCourseys fired the firm in an attempt to avoid paying for the legal work they were provided. Second, the facts show McNaul Ebel's representation of Lane Powell in the subsequent suit against the DeCourseys was likewise in compliance with the RPC, despite being forced to deal with adversaries that refused to comply with nearly every

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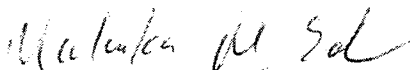
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order of the court and were, as a result, held in contempt numerous times. To a large extent, the “issues” raised by the DeCourseys were rejected (often numerous times) by the trial court and, to the extent these issues were the subject of an appeal, they were likewise rejected by the Court of Appeals.

The only thing new in the DeCourseys’ most recent submission is the DeCourseys’ unfounded and inaccurate accusations and outright name-calling against Disciplinary Counsel Debra Slater and Judge Michael Spearman, and rantings about their view of the legal system. The DeCourseys accuse Lane Powell and McNaul Ebel of secretly feeding materials to Ms. Slater. Appeal at 4. The DeCourseys repeatedly state that Ms. Slater was acting as counsel for Lane Powell and McNaul Ebel. *Id.* at 7, 17. None of this, of course, is true. Indeed, the DeCourseys’ own appeal makes clear that Ms. Slater devoted significant time and effort into evaluating the DeCourseys’ grievance. *Id.* at 3. It is indicative of the DeCourseys’ consistently bizarre and conspiratorial views that they rely on Robert Grundstein—a lawyer who has been disbarred and whose many lawsuits have been rejected (often repeatedly)—as support for their narrative about Judge Spearman. *Id.* at 31.

We reserve the right to supplement this response and welcome any questions you may have regarding this long-running dispute.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Sulkin
Malaika M. Eaton

MME:rml

cc: Mr. Grant S. Degginger
Mr. Ryan P. McBride