

**SUPREME COURT MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

S270145 A162842 First Appellate District, Div. 1

**RITTIMAN (BRANDON) v.
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION**

Order filed

The court's order dated October 20, 2021, is amended nunc pro tunc to read as follows:
The petition for review is granted. The matter is transferred to the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division One, with directions to vacate its order denying mandate and to issue an order directing respondent California Public Utilities Commission to show cause why the relief sought in the petition should not be granted.

S270912

**MITCHELL ON
REINSTATEMENT**

Petitioner reinstated

Upon recommendation of the State Bar Court, the court orders that COURTNEY LEE MITCHELL be reinstated as an attorney of the State Bar of California upon payment of fees and taking the oath required by law.

S270914

MILLER ON DISCIPLINE

Recommended discipline imposed: disbarred

The court orders that MICHAEL SCOTT MILLER (Respondent), State Bar Number 158019, is disbarred from the practice of law in California and that Respondent's name is stricken from the roll of attorneys.

Respondent must make restitution to the Estate of Gary Arata, or such other recipient as may be designated by the Office of Probation or the State Bar Court, in the amount of \$87,450 plus 10 percent interest per year from April 6, 2017 (or reimburse the Client Security Fund, to the extent of any payment from the Fund to such payee, in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6140.5). Reimbursement to the Fund is enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Respondent must also comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order.

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$4,500 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule

5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law. Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S270916**AHLERS ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed: disbarred

The court orders that STEVEN M. AHLERS (Respondent), State Bar Number 251151, is disbarred from the practice of law in California and that Respondent's name is stricken from the roll of attorneys.

Respondent must comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order.

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$5,000 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S270917**KIM ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed

The court orders that VINCENT SUNGTAE KIM (Respondent), State Bar Number 225840, is suspended from the practice of law in California for two years, execution of that period of suspension is stayed, and Respondent is placed on probation for two years subject to the following conditions:

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for the first year of probation;
2. Respondent must also comply with the other conditions of probation recommended by the Hearing Department of the State Bar Court in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 23, 2021; and
3. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Respondent has complied with all conditions of probation, the period of stayed suspension will be satisfied, and that suspension will be terminated.

Respondent must also comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order. Failure to do so may result in disbarment or suspension.

Respondent must also maintain the records of compliance as required by the conditions of probation.

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$3,500 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business, and Professions Code section 6086.10, and are enforceable both as provided in Business, and Professions Code section 6140.7, and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S270918**PAGLIA ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed

The court orders that ANTHONY MICHAEL PAGLIA (Respondent), State Bar Number 275027, is suspended from the practice of law in California for one year, execution of that period of suspension is stayed, and Respondent is placed on probation for one year subject to the following conditions:

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for the first 30 days of probation;
2. Respondent must comply with the other conditions of probation recommended by the Hearing Department of the State Bar Court in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 27, 2021; and
3. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Respondent has complied with all conditions of probation, the period of stayed suspension will be satisfied, and that suspension will be terminated.

Respondent must provide to the State Bar's Office of Probation proof of taking and passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as recommended by the Hearing Department in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 27, 2021. Failure to do so may result in suspension. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$250 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S270920**COOK ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed

The court orders that PETER LOUIS COOK (Respondent), State Bar Number 232742, is suspended from the practice of law in California for one year, execution of that period of suspension is stayed, and Respondent is placed on probation for one year subject to the following conditions:

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for the first 60 days of probation;
2. Respondent must comply with the other conditions of probation recommended by the Hearing Department of the State Bar Court in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 27, 2021; and
3. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Respondent has complied with all conditions of probation, the period of stayed suspension will be satisfied, and that suspension will be terminated.

Respondent must provide to the State Bar's Office of Probation proof of taking and passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as recommended by the Hearing Department in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 27, 2021. Failure to do so may result in suspension. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$1,500 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S270921**MULLIS ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed: disbarred

The court orders that CHARLES EDWARD MULLIS (Respondent), State Bar Number 130376, is disbarred from the practice of law in California and that Respondent's name is stricken from the roll of attorneys.

Respondent must comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order.

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$5,000 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by

law.

S270922**JESTER ON DISCIPLINE**

Recommended discipline imposed

The court orders that ALEXANDER SCOTT JESTER (Respondent), State Bar Number 291145, is suspended from the practice of law in California for two years, execution of that period of suspension is stayed, and Respondent is placed on probation for two years subject to the following conditions:

1. Respondent is suspended from the practice of law for a minimum of the first year of probation, and Respondent will remain suspended until the following requirements are satisfied:
 - i. Respondent makes restitution to the following payees or such other recipient as may be designated by the Office of Probation or the State Bar Court (or reimburses the Client Security Fund, to the extent of any payment from the Fund to such payees, in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6140.5) and furnishes satisfactory proof to the State Bar's Office of Probation in Los Angeles. Reimbursement to the Fund is enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law:
 - (1) Kristin Turney in the amount of \$500 plus 10 percent interest per year from December 3, 2018;
 - (2) Vanessa Garcia in the amount of \$2,950 plus 10 percent interest per year from August 5, 2020;
 - (3) Suddabeh Bahrapour in the amount of \$5,000 plus 10 percent interest per year from December 1, 2018;
 - ii. If Respondent remains suspended for two years or longer as a result of not satisfying the preceding requirement, Respondent must also provide proof to the State Bar Court of rehabilitation, fitness to practice and present learning and ability in the general law before the suspension will be terminated. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, tit. IV, Stds. for Atty. Sanctions for Prof. Misconduct, std. 1.2(c)(1).)
2. Respondent must also comply with the other conditions of probation recommended by the Hearing Department of the State Bar Court in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 28, 2021.
3. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Respondent has complied with all conditions of probation, the period of stayed suspension will be satisfied, and that suspension will be terminated.

Respondent must provide to the State Bar's Office of Probation proof of taking and passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination as recommended by the Hearing Department in its Order Approving Stipulation filed on July 28, 2021. Failure to do so may result in suspension. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)

Respondent must also comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20, and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order. Failure to do so may result in disbarment or suspension.

Respondent must also maintain the records of compliance as required by the conditions of probation.

Respondent must pay monetary sanctions to the State Bar of California Client Security Fund in the amount of \$4,500 in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.13 and rule 5.137 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. Monetary sanctions are enforceable as a money judgment and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment, and may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law. One-half of the costs must be paid with Respondent's annual fees for each of the years 2023 and 2024. If Respondent fails to pay any installment as described above, or as may be modified in writing by the State Bar or the State Bar Court, the remaining balance is due and payable immediately.

S270913**GILLIS ON RESIGNATION**

Resignation accepted with disciplinary proceeding pending

The voluntary resignation with charges pending of THOMAS OSCAR GILLIS (Attorney), State Bar Number 40186, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted. If Attorney subsequently seeks reinstatement, the State Bar may consider all disciplinary charges that are currently pending against Attorney.

Attorney must comply with rule 9.20 of the California Rules of Court and perform the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 calendar days, respectively, after the effective date of this order. Failure to do so may be considered in any future reinstatement proceeding.

Costs are awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 6086.10 and are enforceable both as provided in Business and Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment and, may be collected by the State Bar through any means permitted by law.

S271814**BRIGHT ON RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of CAMMIE G. BRIGHT, State Bar Number 172604, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271817

**DUARTE, JR., ON
RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of JAMES JOSEPH DUARTE, JR., State Bar Number 138371, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271818

**EDWARDS ON
RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of NANCY GILMAN EDWARDS, State Bar Number 118762, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271820

ELAM ON RESIGNATION

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of GARY EMIL ELAM, State Bar Number 95085, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271821

**GUMPERT ON
RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of FRANKLIN GEORGE GUMPERT, State Bar Number 66051, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271822

**MOCHIZUKI ON
RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of TARA KRISTIN KAORU MOCHIZUKI, State Bar Number 120908, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271823

RICH ON RESIGNATION

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of JOSEPHINE ANNTONETTE RICH, State Bar Number 232278, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271824

ROPER ON RESIGNATION

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of COURT WHITNEY ROPER, State Bar Number 300443, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271825

**SEELICKE ON
RESIGNATION**

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of DOUGLAS HENRY SEELICKE, State Bar Number 185770, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.

S271826

TURNER ON RESIGNATION

Voluntary resignation accepted

The court orders that the voluntary resignation of RANDALL O'NEIL TURNER, State Bar Number 163072, as an attorney of the State Bar of California is accepted.