IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Supreme Court Case

No. SC-

IN RE:

THE PETITION FOR
DISCIPLINARY REVOCATION OF
JOHN FRANCIS MEYERS

The Florida Bar File No. 2020-00,047(2A) NDR

Petitioner.

PETITION FOR DISCIPLINARY REVOCATION WITH LEAVE TO APPLY FOR READMISSION

COMES NOW Petitioner, John Francis Meyers, and submits this Petition for Disciplinary Revocation pursuant to Rule Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.12 and states:

- 1. Petitioner knowingly and voluntarily submits this petition with full knowledge of its effect.
- 2. Petitioner is 60 years of age and has been a member of The Florida Bar since September 22, 2006 and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida and the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.
 - 3. Petitioner has no prior disciplinary history.
- 4. The following disciplinary charges are currently pending against the Petitioner: TFB # 2018-00270. This matter arises from the reciprocal discipline case where The Georgia Supreme Court ordered that Petitioner be suspended for two years effective on December 11, 2017.

- 5. Based on the Georgia Supreme Court Order, Petitioner immediately resigned from his law firm and has not practiced law in any jurisdiction since December 11, 2017.
- 6. The basis of the Georgia suspension stemmed from ten invoices that were altered and sent to a large corporate commercial client whose in-house counsel approved and directed Petitioner to submit the altered billings.
- 7. The billings were related to a side law practice of the in-house counsel and not for the direct benefit of the commercial client.
- 8. Petitioner agreed to submit the billings to the commercial client at the direction of in-house counsel. Nonetheless, Petitioner takes full responsibility for submitting the altered billings to the commercial client.
- 9. When confronted with the facts by his then employer/law firm,
 Petitioner admitted that he altered the submitted bills, immediately paid full
 restitution to his law firm who, in turn, made the commercial client whole for all
 charges it incurred through this billing scheme.
- 10. Mitigating factors included Petitioner's cooperation, remorse, his full restitution to the employer and the commercial client, his lack of any prior discipline and full disclosure and cooperation with the disciplinary agency.
 - 11. Petitioner is also licensed to practice law in California.

- 12. On October 3, 2018, in a reciprocal disciplinary case, the California Supreme Court also suspended Petitioner for two years.
- 13. On August 30, 2018, Case No. SC18-370 was filed with the Florida Supreme Court.
- 14. On September 30, 2018 The Florida Supreme Court suspended Petitioner, sua sponte, until further order of the court. Petitioner has not practiced law since December 11, 2017, in Georgia and, August 30, 2018, in Florida.
- 15. Petitioner seeks a Disciplinary Revocation with Leave to Reapply After Five (5) Years, nunc pro tune, to August 30, 2018, the date that he was suspended by this Court.
- 16. Petitioner agrees to reimburse The Florida Bar for the costs incurred in his disciplinary case.
- 17. Petitioner agrees to submit to a complete audit of any trust account(s) and any other account(s) in which Petitioner has placed client funds, if requested to do so by the Florida Bar.
- 18. Petitioner agrees to eliminate all indicia of his status as a lawyer in Florida and will no longer hold himself out as a Florida licensed attorney on any social media, telephone listings, stationery, checks, business cards office signs or any other indicia of his status as Florida attorney, whatsoever.

- 19. Petitioner understands that the granting of this petition by the Supreme Court of Florida shall serve to dismiss his pending disciplinary case.
- 20. Petitioner agrees to maintain a current mailing address with the Florida Bar for a period of five (5) years after the disciplinary revocation becomes final. Further, Petitioner shall keep the bar advised as to the physical address of Petitioner's home and/or business in the event Petitioner should utilize a post office box or other type of mail drop service during the five (5) year period after the disciplinary revocation becomes final.
- 21. Petitioner contends that granting this Petition will not adversely affect the public interest, the integrity of the courts, or the confidence of the public in the legal profession. Further, Petitioner contends that granting this Petition will not hinder the administration of justice.
- 22. Petitioner agrees to reimburse the Client Security Fund (CSF) for any and all funds CSF has paid or may pay out for claims resulting from Petitioner's misconduct.
- 23. Petitioner agrees to reimburse The Florida Bar for the costs incurred in his disciplinary cases.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court grant this Petition and order that Petitioner's membership in The Florida Bar be Revoked With Leave to Seek Readmission, nunc pro tune, to August 30, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

John Francis Meyers

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404/597-1275

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that this document has been e-filed with The Honorable John A. Tomasino, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Florida with a copy to bar counsel, James K. Fisher at <u>ifisher@floridabar.org</u>, and a copy provided via United States Mail to Joshua E. Doyle, Executive Director, The Florida Bar, 651 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2300 and to Interim Staff Counsel, Allison Carden Sackett at <u>asackett@flroidabar.org</u>, on this 4th day of August, 2019.

Mr. John Francis Meyers