## ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

## MISC. DOCKET NO. 17-9146

## IN THE MATTER OF FRANCISCO STEVEN TIPTON

The Court has reviewed the Motion for Acceptance of Resignation as Attorney and Counselor at Law in Lieu of Disciplinary Action of Francisco Steven Tipton (the Motion) and the Response of the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel for the Commission for Lawyer Discipline (the Response). The Court concludes each meets the requirements of Part X of the Texas Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. The Court finds that Francisco Steven Tipton has waived his right to withdraw the Motion. Therefore, the Court deems the professional misconduct detailed in the Response conclusively established for all purposes. The Court further concludes that Francisco Steven Tipton's resignation is in the best interest of the public, the profession and Francisco Steven Tipton.

Therefore, the law license of Francisco Steven Tipton of McAllen, Texas, State Bar Card Number 24088756 is canceled. Francisco Steven Tipton must immediately surrender his State Bar Card and Texas law license to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas or file with the Court an affidavit stating why he cannot.

Francisco Steven Tipton is prohibited from practicing law in the State of Texas. He is prohibited from holding himself out as an attorney at law, performing legal services for others, giving legal advice to others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for legal services, appearing as counsel or in any representative capacity in any proceeding in any Texas court or before any Texas administrative body (whether state, county, municipal, or other), or holding himself out to

others or using his name in any manner in conjunction with the words "Attorney at Law," "Counselor at Law," or "Lawyer."

Additionally, Francisco Steven Tipton must immediately notify in writing each of his current clients and opposing counsel of his resignation. He must also return any files, papers, unearned monies and other property in his possession belonging to any client or former client to the respective client or former client or to another attorney at the client's or former client's request. Francisco Steven Tipton must file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within thirty days of the date of this Order an affidavit stating that all current clients and opposing counsel have been notified of his resignation and that all files, papers, monies and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned.

Finally, Francisco Steven Tipton must, within thirty days after the date of this Order, notify in writing each justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each court in which Francisco Steven Tipton has any matter pending of the terms of this Order, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) Francisco Steven Tipton is representing in court. Francisco Steven Tipton must file with the Statewide Compliance Monitor, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711, within thirty days of the date of this Order an affidavit stating that he has notified in writing each justice of the peace, judge, magistrate, and chief justice of each court in which he has any matter pending of the terms of this Order, the style and cause number of the pending matter(s), and the name, address and telephone number of the client(s) he is representing in Court.

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## CONDITIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT

As absolute conditions precedent for the reinstatement of Francisco Steven Tipton, he must pay the following: (1) restitution to JAVIER AREVALO in the amount of \$2,760.00; made payable to JAVIER AREVALO, (2) restitution to RUBEN BETANCOURT, in the amount of \$840.00; made payable to RUBEN BETANCOURT.

All payments of restitution must be made by certified or cashier's check or money order and must be delivered to the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, State Bar of Texas, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, Texas 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado Street, Austin, Texas 78701).

SO ORDERED this 30th day of November, 2017.

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice

Paul W. Green, Justice

Phil Johnson, Justice

Don R. Willett, Justice

Eva M. Guzman, Justice

Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice

Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice

John P. Devine, Justice

Jeffrey V. Brown, Justice