ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

MISC. DOCKET NO. 11-<u>9029</u>

IN THE MATTER OF RAYMOND E. BESS

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

Therefore, the law license of Raymond E. Bess of Harris County, Texas, State Bar Card Number 02262600, is cancelled. The Court notes that Mr. Bess has already surrendered his Texas law license and Texas Bar Card to the State Bar of Texas.

Raymond E. Bess is prohibited from practicing law in the State of Texas. He is precluded 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 terms "Attorney at Law," "Counselor at Law," or "Lawyer."

Mr. Bess shall immediately notify in writing each of his current clients of this resignation. He shall also return any files, papers, unearned monies, and other property in his possession and 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. Mr. Bess shall file with 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), within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order, an affidavit stating that all current clients have been notified of his resignation and that all files, papers, unearned monies, and other property belonging to all clients and former clients have been returned.

Additionally, Mr. Bess shall, within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order, notify 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 that court. Mr. Bess shall file with 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), within thirty (30) 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 that court.

CONDITIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT

As an absolute condition precedent for Bess' reinstatement to the practice of law, the CFLD requests that Bess be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$807.00 to Irum Amir. Respondent shall pay the restitution by certified or cashier's check or money order made

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payable to Irum Amir and delivered to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701).

As an absolute condition precedent for Bess' reinstatement to the practice of law, the CFLD requests that Bess be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,117.00 to Ngocdung Bui. Respondent shall pay the restitution by certified or cashier's check or money order made payable to Ngocdung Bui and delivered to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701).

As an absolute condition precedent for Bess' reinstatement to the practice of law, the CFLD requests that Bess be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$ 41,500.00 to Christina Truong. Respondent shall pay the restitution by certified or cashier's check or money order made payable to Christina Truong and delivered to the State Bar of Texas, Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487 (1414 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701), or as ordered by the 183rd Judicial District Court, Harris County, Texas.

As an absolute condition precedent for Bess' reinstatement to the practice of law, the CFLD requests that Bess be required to pay \$330.00 in attorneys' fees and \$386.53 in expenses. This amount represents the attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the CFLD in the matters made the basis of Bess' resignation.

As an additional condition for reinstatement, the CFLD also requests that Bess be required to pay post-judgment interest on the amount assessed as attorneys' fees, at a rate calculated pursuant to § 304.003 of the Texas Finance Code, from the date the order is signed accepting Bess' resignation to date of final payment.

The payment of attorneys' fees, expenses, and post-judgment interest should be made by certified or cashier's check or money order, payable to the State Bar of Texas, and forwarded 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).

IT IS ORDERED this 8^{th} day of Ma	rch, 2011.
T.	Wallace B. Lydferin
	Vallace B. Jefferson, Chief Justice Julian L. Hecht, Justice
	Dale Manuaght Dale Wainwright, Justice
$\overline{\mathbb{D}}$	David M. Medina, Justice
P	Mundelland W. Green, Justice
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	On R. Willett On R. Willett, Justice
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<u></u>	Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice