FILED

MAR 1 3 2012

STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

# PROBABLE CAUSE COMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

JESUS R. ROMO VEJAR Bar No. 011307

Respondent

No. 11-1061 (Berenice and Yadel Lopez) (Gutierrez)

ORDER OF ADMONITION, PROBATION, FEE ARBITRATION AND COSTS

The Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona ("Committee") first reviewed this matter on February 10, 2012 pursuant to Rules 50 and 55, Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., for consideration of the State Bar's Report of Investigation and Recommendation, and Respondent's Response.. The Committee instructed Bar Counsel to conduct further investigation, and the Committee again reviewed this matter on March 9, 2012.

By a vote of 8-0-1,<sup>1</sup> the Committee finds probable cause exists that Respondent violated the following rule of the Arizona Supreme Court: Rule 42, ER 1.15(b): failed to provide an accounting of the work done for the \$10,000 flat fee charged.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED issuing an Order of Admonition for Respondent's conduct pursuant to Rules 55(c)(1)(D) and 60(a)(4), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Rules 55(c)(1)(D) and 60(a)(5), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., that Respondent is placed on Probation under the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Respondent shall initiate and participate in the State Bar's Fee Arbitration Program.
- The probation period shall begin at the time this Order is served upon Respondent.
- Respondent shall contact the Fee Arbitration Program Coordinator at 602-340-7379
   within twenty (20) days from the date this Order is served on Respondent to obtain

Committee member Ben Harrison did not participate in this matter on March 9, 2012.

and submit the forms necessary to participate in the fee arbitration. Respondent shall submit the completed petition to the Fee Arbitration Coordinator within 90 days from the date of this Order. Respondent shall timely pay any award entered in the fee arbitration proceeding.

- Respondent shall commit no further violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
- Respondent shall report, in writing, compliance with the terms of probation to the
   State Bar's Phoenix Office.
- 6. If Respondent fails to comply with any of the foregoing conditions and the State Bar receives information about non-compliance, bar counsel shall report materials violations to the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, who may hold a hearing to determine if the terms of probation have been violated and to determine if an additional sanction should be imposed. In a probation violation hearing, the State Bar must prove a violation by preponderance of the evidence.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if after Respondent submits the fee arbitration petition, the Complainant or Miguel Gutierrez fail to participate in fee arbitration, the terms of probation will be deemed completed and the matter be dismissed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED pursuant to Rule 60(b), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., that Respondent shall pay the costs and expenses of these proceedings, as set forth in the attached Statement of Costs and Expenses, within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order.

PURSUANT to Rules 48(k)(3) and 60(a)(4), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., this Order will be entered in the Respondent's permanent record at the State Bar and, pursuant to Rule 70(a)(2), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., is not confidential. It may be considered by the Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee, the Presiding Disciplinary Judge, or the Supreme Court in recommending or imposing discipline in a subsequent disciplinary proceeding against Respondent.

#### NOTICE OF RIGHT

Parties may not file motions for reconsideration of this Order.

PURSUANT to Rule 55(c)(4)(B), Ariz. R. Sup. Ct., within ten (10) days of service of this Order the Respondent has the right to demand a formal proceeding be instituted and issuance of an Order to Vacate this Order of Admonition, Probation, Fee Arbitration and costs. This demand shall be filed with the Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona, 1501 W. Washington St., Suite 104, Phoenix, AZ 85007, with a copy to the State Bar of Arizona. The demand must comply with Rule 8(c), Ariz. R App. Proc.

DATED this 13 day of March, 2012.

Judge Lawrence R. Winthrop Chair, Attorney Discipline Probable Cause Committee of the Supreme Court of Arizona

Original filed this 13 day of March, 2012, with:

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6288

Copy mailed by regular first class and by certified mail this / L/ day of March, 2012, to:

Jesus R. Romo Vejar 177 North Church Avenue, Suite 200 Tucson, Arizona 85701-1153 Respondent

Copy mailed this 147 day of March, 2012, to:

Berenice Lopez 3039 East Calle Rabida Tucson, Arizona 85706 Complainant Yadel Lopez 421 Via Calandria Rio Rico, Arizona 85648-6620 Co-complainant

Copy emailed this 14 day of March, 2012, to:

Lawyer Regulation Records Manager State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6288

Fee Arbitration Program Coordinator State Bar of Arizona 4201 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-6288

## Statement of Costs and Expenses

In the Matter of a Member of the State Bar of Arizona, Jesus R.Romo Vejar, Bar No. 011307, Respondent

File No. 11-1061

#### **Administrative Expenses**

The Supreme Court of Arizona has adopted a schedule of administrative expenses to be assessed in lawyer discipline. If the number of charges/complainants exceeds five, the assessment for the general administrative expenses shall increase by 20% for each additional charge/complainant where a violation is admitted or proven.

Factors considered in the administrative expense are time expended by staff bar counsel, paralegal, secretaries, typists, file clerks and messenger; and normal postage charges, telephone costs, office supplies and all similar factors generally attributed to office overhead. As a matter of course, administrative costs will increase based on the length of time it takes a matter to proceed through the adjudication process.

# General Administrative Expenses for above-numbered proceedings

\$600.00

Additional costs incurred by the State Bar of Arizona in the processing of this disciplinary matter, and not included in administrative expenses, are itemized below.

#### Staff Investigator/Miscellaneous Charges

07/20/11 Computer investigation reports

\$ 0.32

Total for staff investigator charges

\$ 0.32

### TOTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED

*\$600.32* 

Sandra E. Montova

**Lawyer Regulation Records Manager** 

Date