

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,
Complainant,

Supreme Court Case
No.

v.

The Florida Bar File
No. 2009-50,260(17I)OSC

LEE ARMAN COHN,
Respondent.

GUILTY PLEA AND CONSENT TO PERMANENT DISBARMENT

Lee Arman Cohn, respondent, hereby tenders his Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment, prior to the filing of a formal complaint and pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-5.1(j) and 3-7.9(a). In support of his Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment, respondent states as follows:

1. Respondent is, and at all times material to this action was, a member of The Florida Bar and subject to the jurisdiction and disciplinary rules of the Supreme Court of Florida.

2. Respondent is the subject of an active bar disciplinary investigation, which has been assigned Florida Bar file number 2009-50,260(17I).

3. Respondent hereby waives probable cause in this matter, and tenders his guilty plea and a consent to permanent disbarment, prior to the filing of a formal complaint, pursuant to R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.9(a).

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4. Respondent hereby certifies that he has determined that it is in his best interest to resolve this matter via entry of this plea and consent to permanent disbarment.

5. Respondent pleads guilty to the following facts, which support his consent to permanent disbarment:

a. Respondent is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a member of The Florida Bar, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Florida.

b. On January 9, 2006, the Supreme Court of Florida entered an Order in case number SC05-1671, disbaring respondent from the practice of law for a period of 5 years. A true copy of the Order of disbarment is attached hereto and identified as **Exhibit A**.

c. The Court's Order mandated that respondent's disbarment be effective immediately.

d. Respondent's disbarment was predicated upon his continued practice of law after being suspended by the Supreme Court in Case No. SC04-45.

e. Notwithstanding respondent's status as a disbarred attorney, he has acted in contempt of the Supreme Court of Florida, and continued to practice law.

f. On June 12, 2008, the Court entered an Agreed Order on Former Husband's Emergency Motion to Compel Former Wife to Allow Minor Child to Travel in the case styled In Re: The Former Marriage of Ana M. Villa v. Augusto E. Villa, Case NO. 50-1997-DR-005-449 in the Circuit Court of the 15th Judicial Circuit in and for Palm Beach County, Florida.

g. Opposing counsel Matthew Nugent, Esq., negotiated such Agreed Order with Lee Arman Cohn.

h. The negotiations consisted of numerous telephone calls and e-mails between attorneys and paralegals in Nugent's firm and respondent, who continually held himself out as John Contini, Esq.

i. Cohn held himself out to be John Contini, Esq., an attorney licensed to practice law in Florida.

j. Further, respondent appeared by telephone at the June 12, 2008 hearing on the Emergency Motion before Judge Crow.

k. Respondent was called by the court and identified himself as John Contini, counsel for the wife.

l. Respondent never informed the court that he was not in fact John Contini.

m. Respondent purposely lied to the court as to his identity in order to be able to practice law before Judge Crow.

6. Having admitted the foregoing misconduct, and waived a probable cause finding under the applicable bar rules, respondent pleads guilty to violating the following Rules Regulating The Florida Bar: R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-5.5(a) [A lawyer shall not practice law in a jurisdiction other than the lawyer's home state, in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in that jurisdiction or in violation of the regulation of the legal profession in the lawyer's home state or assist another in doing so.]; 4-8.4(a) [A lawyer shall not violate or attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, knowingly assist or induce another to do so, or do so through the acts of another.]; 4-8.4(c) [A lawyer shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation....]; 4-8.4(d) [A lawyer shall not engage in conduct in connection with the practice of law that is prejudicial to the administration of justice...].

7. Respondent is acting freely and voluntarily in this matter and has had a full and fair opportunity to consult with legal counsel of his own choosing.

8. Respondent states that he has chosen to represent himself throughout this matter.

9. Respondent tenders this Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment with full knowledge of all rights afforded to respondents in disciplinary proceedings, as set forth in The Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. Respondent understands that he has the right to a probable cause hearing followed by an evidentiary hearing before a referee, during which The Florida Bar would bear the burden of proving its case against him by clear and convincing evidence.

10. Notwithstanding this knowledge, respondent believes it to be in his best interest to enter into this Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment.

11. Respondent acknowledges that this consent judgment is tendered knowingly and voluntarily, without fear, threat, coercion or promises not set forth in this agreement.

12. Respondent hereby certifies that he is not acting under duress and that he is not laboring under any physical or mental infirmity, or under the influence of any substance which would preclude him from knowingly and intelligently executing and submitting this guilty plea and consent to permanent disbarment.

13. Respondent understands that The Florida Bar's agreement with this Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment is conditioned upon approval by The Florida Bar Board of Governors and The Supreme Court of Florida.

14. Respondent is aware that R. Regulating Fla. Bar 3-7.6(q) provides for the taxing of The Florida Bar's costs against the respondent in bar disciplinary proceedings. Respondent hereby agrees to pay The Florida Bar's costs in these proceedings as set forth in The Florida Bar's affidavit of costs, and further agrees that he will not attempt to discharge his obligation to pay these costs in any future proceedings including, but not limited to, a petition for bankruptcy.

15. Respondent understands and agrees that this Guilty Plea and Consent to Permanent Disbarment is a public document, and will become part of the public record in this case.

Dated: 11/23/08



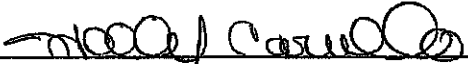
LEE ARMAN COHN, #561584
Respondent
1112 S.E. Third Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF BROWARD)



The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 25th day of NOVEMBER, 2008, by LEE ARMAN COHN, who (is personally known to me) (produced identification in the form of _____ and who (did) (did not) take an oath.

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA
Holly Carullo
Commission # DD828519
Expires: NOV. 05, 2012
BONDED THROUGH ATLANTIC BONDING CO., INC.



Notary Public

Dated: 11/25/08

Adria E. Quintela

ADRIA E. QUINTELA, #897000
Chief Branch Discipline Counsel
The Florida Bar
5900 North Andrews Avenue, Suite 900
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 772-2245

Telephonically Approved By: Allison Kaye Bethel, Designated Reviewer
Kenneth Lawrence Marvin, Staff Counsel

Supreme Court of Florida

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2006

CASE NO.: SC05-1671
Lower Tribunal No.: 2005-51,435(17I)OSC

THE FLORIDA BAR

vs. LEE ARMAN COHN

Complainant(s)

Respondent(s)

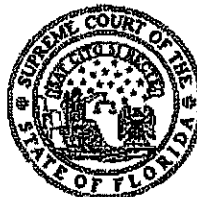
The Court having issued its Order to Show Cause to respondent and respondent having not filed a response to said Order to Show Cause,

IT IS ORDERED that respondent is disbarred from the practice of law in the State of Florida effective immediately.

PARIENTE, C.J., and WELLS, ANSTEAD, LEWIS, QUINCE, CANTERO and BELL, JJ., concur.

A True Copy
Test:


Thomas D. Hall
Clerk, Supreme Court



bhp
Served:

JOHN ANTHONY BOGGS
ADRIA E. QUINTELA
LEE ARMAN COHN

THE FLORIDA BAR'S
EXHIBIT

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