

In the Matter of Stanford E. Lerch, Bar No. 001287, File No. PDJ-2011-9010 [10-1396] effective July 7, 2011. Attorney Reprimanded, Restitution ordered and costs imposed.

Pursuant to Rule 57(a)(4)(A), Ariz.R.Sup.Ct., the PDJ approved the Agreement for Discipline by Consent submitted by the parties and reprimanded Stanford E. Lerch.

Respondent engaged in a conflict of interest when he obtained a loan from his client and failed to advise the client in writing of the desirability and the opportunity to seek the advice independent counsel regarding the business transaction.

Respondent's negligent misconduct cause actual harm to the client and constituted grounds for the imposition of discipline pursuant to the Rules of the Supreme Court of Arizona and violated Rule 42, ER 1.8(a).

In evaluating aggravating and mitigating factors, the following factors were found: in aggravation, factor 9.22(b) (selfish or dishonest motive) and 9.22(i) (substantial experience in the practice of law); and in mitigation, factors 9.32(a) (absence of prior disciplinary history), 9.32(e) (full and free disclosure to disciplinary board or cooperative attitude towards proceedings), 9.32(g) (character or reputation), 9.32(l) (remorse), and his willingness to repay the loans.

The agreement is accepted and costs awarded in the amount of \$1,200.00. The proposed final judgment and order is reviewed, approved and signed.