

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA BAR,

Complainant,

v.

BROOKS RICHARD SIEGEL,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case  
No. SC-

The Florida Bar File  
No. 2023-70,470 (11C)

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**CONDITIONAL GUILTY PLEA FOR CONSENT JUDGMENT**

COMES NOW, the undersigned respondent, Brooks Richard Siegel, and files this Conditional Guilty Plea pursuant to Rule 3-7.9 of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

1. 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.

2. Respondent is currently the subject of a Florida Bar disciplinary matter which has been assigned The Florida Bar File No. 2023-70,470(11C). Respondent waives the right to a probable cause hearing before a grievance committee and stipulates to a finding of probable cause in reference to this matter.

EXHIBIT

**A**

3. Respondent is acting freely and voluntarily in this matter, and tenders this Plea without fear or threat of coercion. Respondent is not represented in this matter.

4. The disciplinary measures to be imposed upon respondent are as follows:

A. Public Reprimand by publication.

B. Attend Ethics School within 6 months of the Court's approval of this consent judgment and pay the \$750.00 workshop fee prior to attendance.

C. Payment of The Florida Bar's costs in this matter.

5. The following allegations and rules provide the basis for respondent's guilty plea and for the discipline to be imposed in this matter:

A. In addition to membership in The Florida Bar, respondent was a member of the State Bar of Arizona, admitted on September 25, 2014, subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Arizona.

B. This is a reciprocal discipline action under Rule 3-4.6 of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, based on the Final Judgment and Order dated January 27, 2023, and the Agreement for Discipline by Consent dated January 25, 2023, which imposed a reprimand and

recognized respondent's voluntary agreement to cease practicing in Arizona for a period of two years.<sup>1</sup>

C. The reprimand was based on the following conduct:

(1) In August 2021, Brenda Arechiga ("Arechiga"), who resides in Arizona, hired respondent to handle a Lemon Law claim.

(2) When Arechiga called respondent's firm, she spoke to a staff member in Florida. Thereafter, she executed a fee agreement provided by another staff member.

(3) Neither Respondent, nor any other attorney, spoke with Arechiga during the intake process.

(4) On August 20, 2021, Arechiga received an email from a staff member named Maria, informing her that Respondent would be her attorney.

(5) On August 31, 2021, a legal assistant, Nino, with whom Arechiga had never spoken, transmitted an email to Dodge Motors on Arechiga's behalf, with an offer to settle for a repurchase of the vehicle plus attorney fees and costs.

(6) Respondent never talked to Arechiga regarding her settlement goals or the demand letter.

(7) On September 7, 2021, Arechiga requested a case update.

(8) On September 9, 2021, a staff member, Maria, responded in pertinent part: "The manufacturer finally

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<sup>1</sup> Respondent was not suspended by the court.

responded and we have sent them our demand with your documents.”

(9) On October 13, 2021, Arechiga emailed Maria and noted that she had not received an update in six weeks.

(10) On October 26, 2021, the vehicle manufacturer responded to Maria with an offer to settle for \$4,000.

(11) Firm records reveal that Maria then “discussed offer with client.” During the call, Maria told Arechiga that if she accepted the offer, she would receive \$1,000 and the firm would keep \$3,000. Arechiga declined. Respondent did not discuss the offer with Arechiga.

(12) On or about October 26, 2021, Arechiga terminated the representation without ever speaking with respondent or any lawyer.

(13) Based on the foregoing, respondent is guilty of violating the following Rules Regulating the Florida Bar: 4-1.1 (Competence); 4-1.2(a) (Objectives and Scope of Representation); 4-1.3 (Diligence); 4-1.4 (Communication); 4-5.3 (Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants).

6. The Florida Bar has approved this proposed plea in the manner required by Rule 3-7.9.

7. If this plea is not finally approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar and the Supreme Court of Florida, then it shall be of no effect and may not be used by the parties in any way.

8. If this plea is approved, then respondent agrees to pay all reasonable costs associated with this case pursuant to Rule 3-7.6(q) in the amount of \$1,250.00. These costs are due within 30 days of the court order. Respondent agrees that if the costs are not paid within 30 days of this court's order becoming final, respondent shall pay interest on any unpaid costs at the statutory rate. Respondent further agrees not to attempt to discharge the obligation for payment of the Bar's costs in any future proceedings, including but not limited to, a petition for bankruptcy. Respondent shall be deemed delinquent and ineligible to practice law pursuant to Rule 1-3.6 if the cost judgment is not satisfied within 30 days of the final court order, unless deferred by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar.

9. Respondent acknowledges the obligation to pay the costs of this proceeding and that payment is evidence of strict compliance with the conditions of any disciplinary order or agreement and is also evidence of good faith and fiscal responsibility. Respondent understands that failure to pay the costs of this proceeding will reflect adversely on any other bar disciplinary matter in which respondent is involved.

10. This Conditional Guilty Plea for Consent Judgment fully complies with all requirements of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.



**Brooks Richard Siegel**  
Respondent  
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Dated this 10 day of June 2024.



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