|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In the Matter of: | Case Number(s): |
|

# Nolo Contendere Plea Stipulations to Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition

The terms of pleading nolo contendere are set forth in the Business and Professions Code and the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. The applicable provisions are set forth below:

**Business and Professions Code § 6085.5 Disciplinary Charges; Pleas to Allegations**

There are three kinds of pleas to the allegations of a notice of disciplinary charges or other pleading which initiates a disciplinary proceeding against an attorney:

1. Admission of culpability.
2. Denial of culpability.
3. Nolo contendere, subject to the approval of the State Bar Court. The court shall ascertain whether the member completely understands that a plea of nolo contendere will be considered the same as an admission of culpability and that, upon a plea of nolo contendere, the court will find the attorney culpable. The legal effect of such a plea will be the same as that of an admission of culpability for all purposes, except that the plea and any admissions required by the court during any inquiry it makes as to the voluntariness of, or the factual basis for, the pleas, may not be used against the attorney as an admission in any civil suit based upon or growing out of the act upon which the disciplinary proceeding is based.

**Rules of Procedure of the State Bar, rule 5.56. Stipulations to Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Disposition**

**“(A) Contents.** A proposed stipulation to facts, conclusions of law, and disposition must comprise:

[¶] . . . [¶]

1. a statement that the attorney either:
2. admits the truth of the facts comprising the stipulation and admits culpability for misconduct; or
3. pleads nolo contendere to those facts and misconduct;

[¶] . . . [¶]

**(B) Plea of Nolo Contendere.** If the attorney pleads nolo contendere, the stipulation must also show that the attorney understands that the plea is treated as an admission of the stipulated facts and an admission of culpability.**”**

I, the Respondent in this matter, have read the applicable provisions of Business and Professions Code section 6085.5 and rule 5.56 of the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar. I plead nolo contendere to the charges set forth in this stipulation and I completely understand that my plea will be considered the same as an admission of culpability except as stated in Business and Professions Code section 6085.5(c).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Respondent’s Signature | Print Name |