Final Order

The Director of Enrollment and Discipline (OED Director) of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and Lawrence Y.D. Ho, Respondent, have submitted a settlement agreement in the above proceeding. In order to avoid the necessity of an oral hearing, Respondent and the OED Director have agreed to certain stipulated facts, legal conclusions, and discipline.

Jurisdiction

Lawrence Y.D. Ho is an attorney admitted to the State Bar of California who represents others before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in trademark cases. As such, he is a “practitioner” subject to the USPTO Disciplinary Rules.

Stipulated Facts

1. Ho is founder of Lawrence Y.D. Ho & Associates PTE LTD (the firm).

2. In 1992, Ho applied for registration to practice before the USPTO. However, the OED Director issued a decision denying Ho’s application for registration because he did not satisfy the requirements for registration under 37 C.F.R. § 10.7.

3. On February 13, 1993, Ho’s attorney informed the OED Director that “Lawrence Ying Dat Ho has elected not to seek Review or Reconsideration of the decision.”

4. On December 16, 2005, the web site for the Firm, under the headings, “Members of the Firm,” and “Lawrence Y.D. Ho, B.Sc., M.B.A., J.D., Founder,” stated that Ho was “a U.S. patent attorney registered with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.”

5. In February 2006, OED informed Ho that his web site improperly indicated that he was a registered practitioner. It remained there past June 2006.

Legal Conclusions
6. Based upon the foregoing stipulated facts, Respondent agreed that his conduct violated Disciplinary Rules of the Code of Professional Responsibility as outlined in 37 C.F.R. § 10.31(a) by attempting to defraud, deceive and/or mislead prospective applications or other persons having immediate or prospective business before the Office by advertising on the Firm’s web site that he is registered with the USPTO, knowing that he was not registered.

**DISCIPLINE**

7. Respondent agreed, and it is ordered that:

   a. Respondent be reprimanded.

   b. The OED Director publish the following Notice in the Official Gazette:

      **Notice of Reprimand**

      Lawrence Y.D. Ho, of Singapore, an attorney admitted to the State Bar of California, has been reprimanded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The reprimand is issued pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 32, and 37 C.F.R. § 10.133(g).

      

      Date

      January 17, 2007

      James A. Toupin
      General Counsel
      United States Patent and Trademark Office
      on behalf of
      Jon W. Dudas
      Under Secretary of Commerce For
      Intellectual Property and Director of the
      United States Patent and Trademark Office

      cc: Harry I. Moatz
      USPTO

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