

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Matter of: )  
 )  
George R. Reardon, )  
 )  
Respondent )  
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Proceeding No. D2012-19

**FINAL ORDER**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.27, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO” or “Office”) received for review and approval from the Deputy General Counsel for Enrollment and Discipline and Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline (“OED Director”) an Affidavit of Resignation Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.27 executed by George R. Reardon (“Respondent”) on May 4, 2012. Respondent submitted the affidavit to the USPTO for the purpose of being excluded on consent pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.27.

For the reasons set forth herein, Respondent’s Affidavit of Resignation shall be approved, and Respondent shall be excluded on consent from practice before the Office effective the date of this Final Order.

**Jurisdiction**

Respondent is a registered patent agent (Registration No. 53,505). Respondent is subject to the USPTO Code of Professional Responsibility and Disciplinary Rules. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a). Accordingly, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§ 2(b)(2)(D) and 32 and 37 C.F.R. § 11.27, the USPTO Director has the authority to approve Respondent’s Affidavit of Resignation and to exclude Respondent on consent from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the Office.

### Respondent's Affidavit of Resignation

Respondent acknowledges in his May 4, 2012 Affidavit of Resignation that:

1. His consent is freely and voluntarily rendered, and he is not being subjected to coercion or duress. *See* Affidavit of Resignation Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.27 at ¶ 2.
2. He is aware that there is a disciplinary complaint currently pending against him before a hearing officer (USPTO Disciplinary Proceeding No. 2012-19) and that the complaint is comprised of allegations of misconduct in connection with acts taken while he was President and Executive Director of the National Association of Patent Practitioners ("NAPP"), including allegations that he misappropriated at least \$116,894.80 in NAPP funds and provided false annual financial reports to NAPP. *Id.* at ¶ 7.
3. He is aware that the OED Director is of the opinion that:
  - a. He violated 37 C.F.R. § 10.23(a) (proscribing engaging in disreputable or gross misconduct) by misappropriating NAPP funds, using NAPP funds and the NAPP credit card for personal use without authorization, submitting false financial reports to NAPP, and/or breaching the fiduciary duties of utmost good faith, loyalty, trust, and confidence that he owed to NAPP;
  - b. He violated 37 C.F.R. § 10.23(b)(3) (proscribing engaging in illegal conduct involving moral turpitude) by violating Georgia Code § 16-8-2 (theft by taking), Georgia Code § 16-8-3 (theft by deception), and/or Georgia Code § 16-8-4 (theft by conversion);
  - c. He violated 37 C.F.R. § 10.23(b)(4) (proscribing engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation) by misappropriating NAPP funds, using NAPP funds and the NAPP credit card for personal use without authorization, and/or submitting false financial reports to NAPP that concealed his misconduct; and
  - d. He violated 37 C.F.R. § 10.23(b)(6) (proscribing engaging in other conduct that adversely reflects on the practitioner's fitness to practice before the USPTO) by engaging in the acts and omissions described expressly or impliedly in the pending disciplinary complaint.

*Id.* at ¶ 8.

4. Without admitting to violating any of the Disciplinary Rules of the USPTO Code of Professional Responsibility as alleged in the complaint currently pending against him, he acknowledges that, if and when he applies for reinstatement under 37 C.F.R. § 11.60, the OED Director will conclusively presume, for the limited purpose of determining the application for reinstatement, that (i) the allegations set forth in the disciplinary complaint pending against him are true and (ii) he could not have successfully defended himself against such allegations. *Id.* at ¶ 9.

5. He has fully read and understands 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.27, 11.58, 11.59, and 11.60, and is fully aware of the legal and factual consequences of requesting and consenting to exclusion from practice before the USPTO. *Id.* at ¶ 6.

6. He consents to being excluded from practice before the USPTO. *See id.*

#### **Exclusion on Consent**

Based on the foregoing, the USPTO Director has determined that Respondent's Affidavit of Resignation complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 11.27(a). Hence, it is ORDERED that:

- a. Respondent's Affidavit of Resignation shall be, and hereby is, approved;
- b. Respondent shall be, and hereby is, excluded on consent from the practice of patent, trademark, and other non-patent law before the Office effective the date of this Final Order;
- c. The OED Director shall publish this Final Order at the Office of Enrollment and Discipline's Reading Room found at: <http://des.uspto.gov/Foia/OEDReadingRoom.jsp>;
- d. The OED Director shall publish the following notice in the *Official Gazette*:

### Notice of Exclusion on Consent

This notice concerns George R. Reardon, a registered patent practitioner (Registration No. 53,505). The Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO" or "Office") has accepted Mr. Reardon's affidavit of resignation and ordered his exclusion on consent from the practice of patent, trademark, and non-patent law before the Office.

Mr. Reardon voluntarily submitted his affidavit at a time when a disciplinary complaint was pending against him. He acknowledged that the Director of the USPTO's Office of Enrollment and Discipline ("OED Director") was of the opinion that his conduct violated 37 C.F.R. §§ 10.23(a), 10.23(b)(3), 10.23(b)(4), and 10.23(b)(6) in connection with acts taken while he was President and Executive Director of the National Association of Patent Practitioners ("NAPP"), including allegations that he misappropriated at least \$116,894.80 in NAPP funds and provided false annual financial reports to NAPP. While Mr. Reardon did not admit to violating any of the Disciplinary Rules of the USPTO Code of Professional Responsibility, as alleged in the disciplinary complaint, he acknowledged that, if and when he applies for reinstatement, the OED Director will conclusively presume, for the limited purpose of determining the application for reinstatement, that (i) the allegations set forth in the disciplinary complaint against him are true and (ii) he could not have successfully defended himself against such allegations.

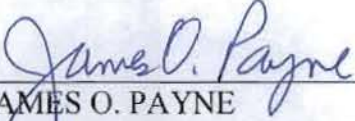
This action is taken pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §§ 2(b)(2)(D) and 32, and 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.27 and 11.59. Disciplinary decisions involving practitioners are posted for public reading at the Office of Enrollment and Discipline Reading Room located at:

<http://des.uspto.gov/Foia/OEDReadingRoom.jsp>.

- e. Respondent shall comply with 37 C.F.R. § 11.58;
- f. The OED Director shall comply with 37 C.F.R. § 11.59;;
- g. Respondent shall comply with 37 C.F.R. § 11.60, if and when he seeks reinstatement to practice before the Office;
- h. The OED Director and Respondent shall bear their own costs incurred to date and in carrying out the terms of this agreement; and

i. The OED Director and Respondent shall jointly move to dismiss the pending disciplinary complaint within fourteen days of the date of this Final Order.

JUN 4 2012  
Date

  
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JAMES O. PAYNE  
Deputy General Counsel for General Law  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

on behalf of

David M. Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

cc:

Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

George R. Reardon  
3356 Station Court  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Robert J. Spar  
3201 Birchtree Lane  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906  
Counsel for Respondent

**Notice of Exclusion on Consent**

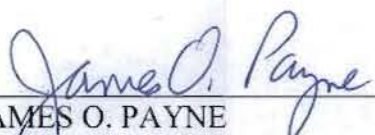
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JUN 4 2012

Date

  
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JAMES O. PAYNE  
Deputy General Counsel for General Law  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

on behalf of

David M. Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office