

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

|                   |   |                         |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| In the Matter of: | ) |                         |
|                   | ) |                         |
| Michael John Ries | ) | Proceeding No. D2020-15 |
|                   | ) |                         |
| Respondent        | ) |                         |
| _____             | ) |                         |

**FINAL ORDER PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 11.24**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24, Michael John Ries (“Respondent”) is hereby publicly reprimanded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO” or “Office”) for violation of 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h).

**Background**

On September 21, 2020, a “Notice and Order Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Notice and Order”) was sent by certified mail (receipt no. 70191640000071024758) notifying Respondent that the Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline (“OED Director”) had filed a “Complaint for Reciprocal Discipline Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.24” (“Complaint”) requesting that the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office impose reciprocal discipline upon Respondent identical to the discipline imposed by the November 15, 2019 Final Judgment and Order of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in *In re Michael Ries*, Case No. PDJ 2019-9073. The Notice and Order provided Respondent an opportunity to file, within forty (40) days, a response opposing the imposition of reciprocal discipline identical to that imposed by the November 15, 2019 Final Judgment and Order of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge of the Supreme Court of Arizona in *In re Michael Ries*, Case No. PDJ 2019-9073, based on one or more of

the reasons provided in 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(d)(1). The Notice and Order was also published in the Official Gazette on November 10, 2020 and November 17, 2020. Respondent has not filed a response to the Notice and Order.

### Analysis

In light of Respondent's failure to file a response, it is hereby determined that there is no genuine issue of material fact under 37 C.F.R. § 11.24(d) and reprimanding Respondent is the appropriate discipline.

ACCORDINGLY, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

1. Respondent is hereby publicly reprimanded;
2. The OED Director publish the following Notice in the *Official Gazette*:

### Notice of Public Reprimand

This notice concerns Michael John Ries of Peshtigo, Wisconsin, who is a registered patent attorney (Registration Number 53,518) and is currently suspended from practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO"). In a reciprocal disciplinary proceeding, the USPTO Director has ordered that Mr. Ries be publicly reprimanded for violating 37 C.F.R. § 11.804(h), predicated upon being publicly reprimanded on ethical grounds by a duly constituted authority of a State.

Specifically, the Supreme Court of Arizona publicly reprimanded Mr. Ries on ethical grounds for conduct that violated Arizona's Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 42, ERs 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, and 1.7, predicated on failing to perform legal services required by his client, and failing to obtain informed consent from his client to a conflict of interest during the preparation of a non-provisional patent application.

This action is taken pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 32 and 37 C.F.R. § 11.24. Disciplinary decisions are available for public review at the Office of Enrollment and Discipline's FOIA Reading Room, located at: <https://foiadocuments.uspto.gov/oed/>;

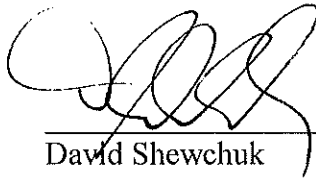
and

3. The OED Director give notice pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 11.59 of the public

discipline and the reasons for the discipline to disciplinary enforcement agencies in the state(s) where Respondent is admitted to practice, to courts where Respondent is known to be admitted, and to the public.

21 Jan 2021

Date



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David Shewchuk  
Deputy General Counsel for General Law  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

on delegated authority by

Andrew Hirshfeld  
Performing the Functions and Duties of the  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual  
Property and Director of the United States Patent and  
Trademark Office