

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF  
FLORIS CHAD COPIER

VS. DOCKET NO. 20-000-115469

CONSENT TO REVOCATION ORDER

This matter came before the Board on the Rule to Show Cause and Order of Summary Suspension and Hearing entered on October 17, 2019; the Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation (hereinafter "Affidavit") of his license to practice law in the courts of this Commonwealth filed by Respondent Floris Chad Copier on November 13, 2019 attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and, the papers previously filed herein.

It appearing to the Board that by tendering his Consent to Revocation at a time when allegations of Misconduct are pending, the nature of which are specifically set forth in the attached Affidavit, Respondent Floris Chad Copier acknowledges that that the material facts upon which the allegations of Misconduct are pending are true.

It further appearing to the Board that having considered the Affidavit and Bar Counsel having no objection, that it is proper that the Board accepts Respondent Floris Char Copier's Consent to Revocation.

Upon consideration whereof, it is therefore ordered that Floris Chad Copier's license to practice law in the courts of this Commonwealth be and the same hereby is revoked, and that the name of Floris Chad Copier be stricken from the Roll of Attorneys of this Commonwealth.

ENTERED: November 15, 2019.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

**Sandra L. Havrilak**

Digitally signed by Sandra L. Havrilak  
DN: cn=Sandra L. Havrilak, o, ou,  
email=slhavrilak@havrilaklaw.com, c=US  
Date: 2019.11.15 11:26:45 -05'00'

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Sandra L. Havrilak, Chair

RECEIVED

Nov 13, 2019

VIRGINIA STATE BAR  
CLERK'S OFFICE

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR DISCIPLINARY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF  
FLORIS CHAD COPIER

VSB Docket No. 20-000-115469

AFFIDAVIT DECLARING CONSENT TO REVOCATION

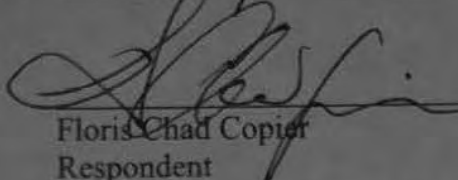
Floris Chad Copier, after being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. That Floris Chad Copier ("Copier") was licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia on 04/22/2005;
2. That Copier submits this Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation pursuant to Rule of Court, Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-28;
3. That Copier's consent to revocation is freely and voluntarily rendered, that Copier is not being subjected to coercion or duress, and that Copier is fully aware of the implications of consenting to the revocation of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
4. Copier is aware that there is currently pending a complaint, an investigation into, or a proceeding involving, allegations of misconduct, the docket number for which is set forth above, and the specific nature of which is here set forth:
  - a. Copier was a member of the Utah State Bar from May 15, 2009, until July 2017 when he intentionally did not renew his Utah Bar membership and did not submit evidence of having completed the required CLE hours.
  - b. On February 29, 2019, Copier resigned his membership in the Utah State Bar. The resignation occurred while discipline charges were pending that alleged violations of the Utah Rules of Professional Conduct involving Diligence, Communication, Safekeeping Property, Withdrawing Representation and Misconduct. The material facts upon which the allegations were predicated are set forth in Exhibit A.
5. Copier acknowledges that, for the purposes of disciplinary proceedings in Utah,

he stated to be true in a sworn affidavit, "I admit the foregoing facts upon which the allegations of misconduct are based. Specifically, I admit violating Rules 1.3, 1.4(a), 1.15(a), and 1.15(c), 1.16(d) and 8.4(c)."

6. Copier submits this Affidavit and consents to the revocation of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia because, based on his sworn admissions in the Utah disciplinary proceedings, if further proceedings based on the said admissions of misconduct were brought or prosecuted to a conclusion by the Virginia State Bar, he could not successfully defend them.

Executed and dated on 11/13/2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Floris Chad Copier  
Respondent

State of Utah  
~~COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA~~  
CITY/COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_, to wit:

The foregoing Affidavit Declaring Consent to Revocation was subscribed and sworn to before me by Floris Chad Copier on Nov. 13, 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 10/20/2020





# Utah State Bar®

Office of Professional Conduct  
645 South 200 East, Suite 205 • Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-3834  
Telephone: (801) 531-9110 • FAX: (801) 531-9912  
E-mail: [opc@utahbar.org](mailto:opc@utahbar.org)

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APR 23 2019

VIRGINIA STATE BAR

April 17, 2019

**Billy L. Walker**  
Senior Counsel

**Adam C. Bevis**  
Deputy Senior Counsel

**Diane Akiyama**  
Assistant Counsel

**Sharadee Fleming**  
Assistant Counsel

**Emily A. Lee**  
Assistant Counsel

**Barbara L. Townsend**  
Assistant Counsel

Intake Office  
Virginia State Bar  
1111 East Main, Suite 700  
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: In the Matter of the Discipline of F. Chad Copier  
Supreme Court Case No.: 20190169

To whom it may concern:

Enclosed is an Order Accepting Resignation with Discipline Pending, entered on March 27, 2019 against attorney F. Chad Copier. I am sending this information as Mr. Copier is registered with the Virginia State Bar, Bar Number 70050.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Schut  
Paralegal  
Office of Professional Conduct

/cms  
Enclosure





FILED  
UTAH APPELLATE COURTS  
MAR 27 2019

**Diane Akiyama #7125**  
Assistant Counsel  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
Utah State Bar  
645 South 200 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
(801) 531-9110  
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IN THE UTAH SUPREME COURT	
In the Matter of the Discipline of:  F. Chad Copier, #12338  Respondent.	ORDER ACCEPTING RESIGNATION WITH DISCIPLINE PENDING  Supreme Court # <u>20190169-SC</u>

Pursuant to Rule 14-521 of the Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability, and based upon the sworn petition of the Respondent, F. Chad Copier, and the consent of the Office of Professional Conduct, the Utah Supreme Court hereby enters an Order Accepting Resignation with Discipline Pending. This Order is effective immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. F. Chad Copier is hereby enjoined and prohibited from practicing law in the State of Utah, holding himself out as an attorney at law, performing any legal services for others, giving legal advice to others, accepting any fee directly or indirectly for rendering legal services as an attorney, appearing as counsel or in any representative capacity in any proceeding in Utah court or before any Utah administrative body as an attorney (whether state, county, municipal or other) or holding himself out to others or

using his name in any manner in conjunction with the words "Attorney at Law", "Counselor at Law," or "Lawyer".

2. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Copier shall comply with all requirements of Rule 14-526 of the Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability.

3. IT IS ORDERED that Mr. Copier is to reimburse the Utah State Bar Fund for Client Protection ("the Fund") for any money that the Fund pays based upon its rules.

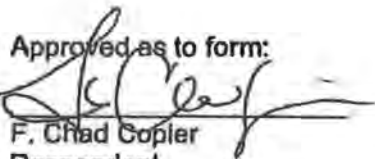
4. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Copier shall comply with all parts of Rule 14-525 of the RLDD regarding any request for readmission to the practice of law.

DATED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2019.

BY THE COURT:



Approved as to form:


  
F. Chad Copier  
Respondent

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 1, 2019, a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER was sent by electronic mail to be delivered to:

F. CHAD COPIER  
fchadcopier@gmail.com

DIANE K AKYAMA  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
opcfileing@utahbar.org

By   
Nicole Gray  
Clerk of Court

Case No. 20190169



**Diane Akiyama #7125**  
Assistant Counsel  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
Utah State Bar  
645 South 200 East  
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<b>IN THE UTAH SUPREME COURT</b>	
<b>In the Matter of the Discipline of:</b>  <b>F. Chad Copier, #12338</b>  <b>Respondent.</b>	<b>RESPONSE AND CONSENT TO RESIGNATION WITH DISCIPLINE PENDING</b>  <b>Supreme Court # _____</b>

Pursuant to Rule 14-521, Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability, the Utah State Bar's Office of Professional Conduct ("OPC") hereby responds and consents to the Petition for Resignation with Resignation with Discipline Pending filed by the Respondent, F. Chad Copier.

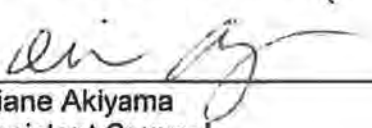
The OPC has been investigating Mr. Copier's conduct and believes that he should be disciplined in the Petition for Resignation with Discipline Pending. In the OPC's view, the conduct admitted in Mr. Garrett's Petition would constitute violations of Rules 1.3, 1.4(a), 1.5(a), 1.15(c), 1.16(d) and 8.4(c) of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Pursuant to the Standards for Imposing Lawyer Sanctions, specifically Rule 14-605(a)(2) and Rule 14-605(a)(3), the OPC believes the disbarment would be the appropriate presumptive sanction for Mr. Copier's violation of these rules.



The OPC objects to and disagrees with Mr. Copier's characterization of the OPC's handling of this matter and Mr. Copier's statement of fact that he is a former member of the Utah State Bar. Mr. Copier is still a member of the Utah State Bar even though he is not an active member.

However, inasmuch as Mr. Copier is prepared to resign with discipline pending, which is tantamount to disbarment, the OPC believes that trial of this matter in order to seek discipline, which would require the time and attention of a court and the expenditure of limited public and Utah State Bar resources without further protecting any public interest or further advancing the purposes of the attorney disciplinary system, is not warranted. The OPC therefore consents to Mr. Copier's Resignation with Discipline Pending and respectfully requests the Court enter the Order.

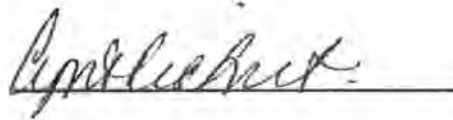
DATED March 1, 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Akiyama  
Assistant Counsel  
Office of Professional Conduct

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on March 1, 2019 I caused to be served via USPS, first-class postage prepaid, a true and correct copy of RESPONSE AND CONSENT TO RESIGNATION WITH DISCIPLINE PENDING on the following:

C. Chad Copier  
5373 W. 10480 N.  
Highland, UT 84003  
[chad@fchadcopier.com](mailto:chad@fchadcopier.com)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Chad Copier", is written over a horizontal line.

F. Chad Copier  
Respondant  
5373 W. 10480 N.  
Highland, UT 84003  
(801) 755-1296  
fchadcopier@gmail.com

<b>IN THE SUPREME COURT</b>	
<b>In the Matter of the Discipline of:</b>  <b>F. Chad Copier #12338</b>  <b>Respondent.</b>	<b>PETITION FOR RESINGATION WITH DISCIPLINE PENDING</b>  <b>Supreme Court No. _____</b>

Pursuant to Rule 14-521, Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability, F. Chad Copier being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I admit for the purposes of the disciplinary proceedings the facts upon which the allegations of misconduct set forth below are based:
  - a. I was an attorney in the State of Utah and a member of the Utah State Bar.
  - b. I was a member of the Utah State Bar from May 15, 2009, until July 2017 when I intentionally did not renew my Utah Bar membership

and did not submit evidence of having completed the required CLE hours.

- c. I was informed by the Utah State Bar and Utah Courts in 2017 that I am no longer permitted to practice law in Utah based on non-compliance with CLE reporting and bar renewal requirements.
- d. Scott Boyle hired me on or around June 2014 for patent application work on two devices.
- e. On June 17, 2014, Mr. Boyle sent me a text message requesting a meeting for June 26, 2014 to retain me.
- f. On June 26, 2014, Mr. Boyle met with me to pay him a \$2,000.00 cashier's check and have me begin the patent process for two devices.
- g. Mr. Boyle gave me pictures and drawings of the devices for which he was seeking patents.
- h. On June 26 or 27, 2014, I deposited the cashier's check into my savings account.
- i. In 2014, I did not have an authorized IOLTA trust account.
- j. In 2014 I was using a savings account as a trust account.

- k. I had not earned all of the \$2,000.00 advance fee when I deposited the check into my savings account.
- l. I did not provide Mr. Boyle any draft applications or any other work that I performed for Mr. Boyle.
- m. Mr. Boyle sent text messages and emails to me and left phone messages for status updates.
- n. I provided Mr. Boyle little or no information about his case.
- o. I texted back to Mr. Boyle with promises to send him drafts and I failed to respond.
- p. After being unable to contact me for some time, Mr. Boyle located my home address.
- q. Mr. Boyle made about three trips to my home for information about his case.
- r. In response to Mr. Boyle's visit to my home, I initially informed Mr. Boyle that the work had been mostly finished.
- s. During other visits to my home, I informed Mr. Boyle that my computer crashed, that I got a new phone, and that I did not have Mr. Boyle's contact information. Mr. Boyle gave me his contact information again.

- bb. I did not respond to Mr. Boyle's termination letter.
- cc. I did not refund any fees to Mr. Boyle.
- dd. Isaac Jacobson retained me to write three provisional patents for Telegenic.
- ee. On May 11, 2017, Mr. Jacobson paid \$3,000.00 as a retainer for my legal services. I did not deposit the retainer in my trust account.
- ff. I exchanged several emails and had several phone conversations with Mr. Jacobson regarding what was needed for the patents and began work on the patent applications.
- gg. On June 21, 2017, in response to Mr. Jacobson's text message regarding the status of the patent applications, I responded, "Just got back into town. Almost done. Hoping to email first one over Wed evening," as I had been out of town.
- hh. Since then, Mr. Jacobson's attempts to contact me via phone, email and text message were unsuccessful, as I was also out of town in Seattle helping a family member during the week of the fourth of July.
- ii. On July 10, 2017, Mr. Jacobson requested a refund of the retainer. At that time, Mr. Jacobson had not seen any work or proof of work since he made the payment.

jj. Mr. Jacobsen's bank returned to the \$3000 retainer to him in September 2017 after he requested a stop payment in July with his credit card company.

kk. I exaggerated the status of the patent work when I communicated with Mr. Boyle and Mr. Jacobson about their matters.

2. For purposes of the Disciplinary proceeding, I admit the foregoing facts upon which the allegations of misconduct are based. Specifically, I admit violating Rules 1.3, 1.4(a), 1.15(a), and 1.15(c), 1.16(d), and 8.4(c).
3. The violations alleged and admitted to constitute grounds for discipline.
4. I do not desire to cause any further burden, expense, or complication to the Court, the OPC, or any other party.
5. I am submitting my resignation freely and voluntarily, and without coercion or duress.
6. I acknowledge that the discipline matter, this Petition and any sanction imposed shall be available to the public and that a notice of this resignation shall be published in the Utah Bar Journal.
7. I agree to comply with such other orders as the Supreme Court of Utah may impose.
8. I am submitting my resignation because I was deeply unhappy in the legal profession, which led to my failures in providing the professional service my



- clients had come to expect. I was suffering from deep depression and was unable to even make myself do simple tasks during various periods of time.
9. Frankly, the malicious actions of OPC during this process have reinforced my decision to never practice law again, as I am reminded that far too few in the practice of law actually seek justice or the truth, but rather to destroy their opponents using any means.
  10. Prior to ceasing the practice of law in 2017, I became a high school math teacher, which reinvigorated me. Teaching was a wonderful, rejuvenating experience, and restored the happiness and positive mental health I enjoy prior to becoming an attorney.
  11. I believe my deep depression was at least in part caused by the unceasing negativity, ends-justify-the-means attitudes, and gamesmanship of many of the attorneys and public officials I interacted with. I can fight no more.
  12. I am fully aware of the implications of submitting the resignation. I have reviewed Rule 14-521 of the Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability ("RLDD"), with respect to discipline, resignation and readmission of members of the Utah State Bar. I understand that this resignation constitutes a revocation, not only of my right to practice law in Utah, but a revocation of my admission to the Supreme Court of the State of Utah.

13. Following the Court's acceptance of this resignation, I understand that even though I have previously and voluntarily ceased legal practice and did not renew my bar membership in Utah, was already informed that I am no longer permitted to practice by the Utah bar and Utah courts, and have no present plans or intention to resume legal practice in Utah anytime in the future, my name will be stricken from the rolls of those admitted before this Court and that I will be enjoined from the practice of law in Utah.
14. I have already caused the removal of any indicia as an attorney, counselor at law in Utah, or similar title and since July 2017 in all other respects have ceased from acting in such a capacity.
15. Should I desire to be readmitted to practice law in the State of Utah, I understand that I will be required to make application under Rule 14-525. RLDD, and comply with any and all other requirements for readmission to the Bar.
16. I acknowledge that, on its filing in this Court, this Resignation with Discipline Pending will become public record of the Court, open for inspection by anyone requesting to see it and a notice of my resignation and I expressly waive any confidentiality pursuant to Rule 14-515(a) in this matter, in this respect.

17. I agree to comply with Rule 14-526(b) of the RLDDI agree to comply with Rule 14-526(b) of the RLDD, including notice to clients and return of clients' property and to reimburse the Utah State Bar's Fund for Client Protection..

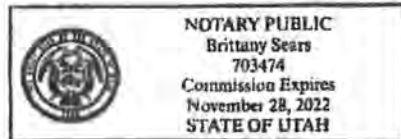
18. I do not currently have any clients and am not holding any property or unearned fees for clients.


DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

  
F. Chad Copier  
Respondent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 28 day of February,

2019.



  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Residing in:  
Salt Lake City

NOV. 28, 2022 My Commission expires