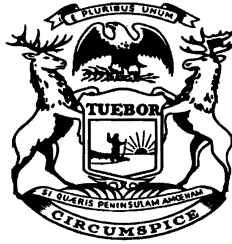


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NOTICE OF REPRIMAND WITH CONDITION
(By Consent)

Case No. 11-109-GA

Notice Issued: January 3, 2012

Robert A. Mertz, P 51479, Saginaw, Michigan, by the Attorney Discipline Board Tri-Valley Hearing Panel #2.

1. Reprimand
2. Effective December 30, 2011

The respondent and the Grievance Administrator submitted a stipulation for consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5). The stipulation was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and was accepted by the hearing panel. The stipulation contains respondent's plea of *nolo contendere* to the allegations that he committed professional misconduct by preparing an instrument giving the lawyer or a person related to the lawyer as parent, child, sibling or spouse any substantial gift from a client, including a testamentary gift, except where the client is related to the donee; and improperly notarizing a document, in violation of MCL 55.291; MCR 9.104(A)(2); and Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct 1.8(c); and 8.4(a).

Pursuant to the agreement of the parties, the hearing panel ordered that respondent be reprimanded and subject to a condition relevant to the alleged misconduct. Costs were assessed in the amount of \$756.43.

John F. Van Bolt

Dated: **JAN - 3 2012**