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## IN THE MATTER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION ACT, 1990 AND IN THE MATTER OF MERVIN CLAYTON PHILLIPS, A LAWYER OF REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

## **AMENDED Formal Complaint**

I, VALERIE PAYNE, of the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, Director of Professional Responsibility for the Law Society of Saskatchewan, do hereby certify that Greg Walen, Q.C., Hearing Committee Appointment Coordinator—Leslie Belloc-Pinder, Chair of the Discipline Committee of the Benchers of The Law Society of Saskatchewan, has appointed a Hearing Committee pursuant to Rule 1118 of the Rules of the Law Society of Saskatchewan—Section 47(1) of The Legal Profession Act, 1990, comprised of James Morrison, Q.C., as Chair, Lynda Kushnir Pekrul Glenn Hepp and Amanda Doucette to hear and determine a formal complaint set out by the Conduct Investigation Committee, pursuant to Rule 1116 of the Rules of the Law Society of Saskatchewan Section 46(1) of The Legal Profession Act, 1990, against MERVIN CLAYTON PHLLIPS, a lawyer and a member of The Law Society of Saskatchewan, carrying on the practice of law at all of the relevant times in the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, as follows:

THAT **MERVIN CLAYTON PHILLIPS**, of the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan is guilty of conduct unbecoming a lawyer in that he:

- 1. failed to be frank and candid with his client, T.V. in relation to the anticipated and mounting costs of her respective legal matters;
- 2. failed to be frank and candid with his client, P.V. in relation to the anticipated and mounting costs of his respective legal matters;
- 3. failed to serve his client, T.V., in a conscientious, diligent and efficient manner;
- 4. failed to serve his client, P.V., in a conscientious, diligent and efficient manner;
- 5. charged fees to his client T.V. that were not fully disclosed, fair and reasonable;
- 6. charged fees to his client P.V. that were not fully disclosed, fair and reasonable;

- 7. failed to follow his client's instructions and failed to encourage or facilitate settlement of T.V.'s family law dispute, despite receiving instructions from the client that she wished to settle the matter;
- 8. did, in the appeal of the T.V. Assessment decision, knowingly assert as true facts when their truth could not reasonably be supported by the evidence;
- 9. did, in relation to his client T.V., knowingly assist in dishonest conduct by allocating non-tax-deductible legal fees to files where legal fees were tax deductible; and
- 10. engaged in frivolous and vexatious litigation tactics in the Assessment process and subsequent appeals.

DATED at the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this \_\_1st\_\_ day of June, 2021.

VALERIE PAYNE

Director of Professional Responsibility for the Law Society of Saskatchewan