Case No. OBC15-0964

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STATE BAR OF NEVADA

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OF BAR COUNSEL

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISCIPLINARY BOARD

STATE BAR OF NEVADA,)
Complainant,)
VS.	PUBLIC REPRIMAND
ROBERT DOMICO, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 6272, Respondent)))

TO: Robert Domico, Esq. Law Offices of Robert H. Domico 9972 March Mist Court Las Vegas, NV 89183

Mario Murguia complained that as his attorney, you had a conflict of interest by representing him both as his attorney and realtor. According to Murguia, you first met when you worked for the firm of Dixon and Truman. You handled all his legal needs. which were primarily for his business.

Murguia indicated that he was looking at possibly listing a piece of vacant land that he owned to see what it was worth. You told him you had a real estate license and would list his property. Murguia signed an authorization to allow you to sell the property on April 12, 2013.

Nevada Rule of Professional Conduct 1.8(a) states," A lawyer shall not enter into a business transaction with a client.... Unless:

- (1) The transaction and terms on which the lawyer acquires the interest are fair and reasonable to the client and are fully disclosed and transmitted in writing in a manner that can reasonably be understood by the client;
- (2) The client is advised in writing of the desirability of seeking and is given a reasonable opportunity to seek the advice of independent legal counsel on the transaction; and
- (3) The client gives informed consent, in a writing signed by the client, to the essential terms of the transaction and the lawyer's role in the transaction, including whether the lawyer is representing the client in the transaction."

You failed to advise Murguia in writing about the desirability of seeking independent counsel for the transaction, or give him a reasonable time to seek independent counsel. Murguia never gave informed consent in writing to the essential terms of the agreement and an understanding of your role.

Murguia signed a second similar authorization to allow you to sell the property on December 20, 2013. Again, you failed to advise Murguia in writing about the desirability of seeking independent counsel for the transaction, or give him a reasonable time to seek independent counsel. Furthermore, Murguia never gave informed consent in writing to the essential terms of the agreement and an understanding of your role.

As such, you violated Rule of Professional Conduct (RPC) 1. 8 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients: Specific Rules) and are hereby **PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED.**

DATED this 19th day of October, 2016.

Russell E. Marsh, Esq., Hearing Panel Chair

Southern Nevada Disciplinary Panel