

**PRACTICE OF LAW BOARD
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

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February 15, 2007

Stephen Crossland
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Chuck Haunreiter

Hon. Paul A. Bastine
Vice-Chairperson
Spokane

██████████
Chehalis, WA ██████████

Rita L. Bender
Seattle

RE: File No. 06-38

Meg Bridewell
Walla Walla

Dear Mr. Haunreiter:

Brian J. Dano
Moses Lake

The Practice of Law Board was created by order of the Washington State Supreme Court, General Rule (GR) 25. The Board is charged with investigating allegations of the unauthorized practice of law in Washington. Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 2.48.180 states that a nonlawyer practicing law or holding himself out as entitled to practice law constitutes the unauthorized practice of law. Court rule GR 24 defines the practice of law. The unauthorized practice of law is a crime in Washington.

Jeanne J. Dawes
Spokane

Stephanie Delaney
Seattle

Nancy C. Ivarinen
Burlington

As you are aware, C██████████. B██████████ filed a complaint alleging that you engaged in the unauthorized practice of law by drafting legal pleadings in domestic matters. Ms. B██████████ is a lawyer authorized to practice law in Washington. She represented Mr. W██████████ in a legal separation matter that was later converted to a dissolution. You assisted Ms. W██████████ in this matter. Ms. B██████████ alleged that you drafted the following pleadings for Ms. W██████████: Motion and Declaration for Temporary Order; Temporary Order; Declaration Re: Service Members Civil Relief Act; WPF DRPSCU 09.0200 Confidential Information Form; Summons; Petition for Legal Separation; Declaration in Support of Parenting Plan; Proposed Parenting Plan; Revised Parenting Plan; Washington State Child Support Schedule; Order of Child Support; Declaration of Petitioner Re Assets, and Liabilities, Maintenance, Conversion of Separation Agreement.

Cheryl D. Kringle
Seattle

Howard H. Marshack
Vancouver

Daniel Pérez
Seattle

Hon. Jane M. Smith
Nespelem

Administrator
Julie Shankland

Investigator
Sandra Schilling

You billed Ms. W██████████ \$519.58 for consultation time, changes to orders and final orders. Your bill includes the business name "Dad & Kids". You also advertise your availability for "DIVORCE, PATERNITY, Custody, Visitation, Support, Domestic Violence Defense" in the local paper, the *Chronical*. Your advertisement lists a toll free phone line. You also advertise "CUSTODY, VISITATION, CHILD SUPPORT" on your office building in Chehalis. You declined to speak with our investigator or answer our written questions. The available evidence establishes that you gave advice to Ms. W██████████ regarding her legal rights. You also chose and drafted pleadings in her legal separation and later marriage dissolution action. Your acts constitute the unauthorized

practice of law. Your advertisements in the newspaper and on your office building are holding yourself out as authorized to select and draft pleadings. This also constitutes the unauthorized practice of law.

RCW 2.48.180(2)(a) states that a non-lawyer practicing law or holding himself out as entitled to do so constitutes the unauthorized practice of law. Giving advice or counsel to others as to their legal rights or responsibilities for fees or other consideration is included in the GR 24 definition of the practice of law. Selecting, drafting or completing legal documents which affect the legal rights of others is also included in the GR 24 definition of the practice of law. You are a non-lawyer preparing documents for clients to file in court which affect their legal rights. When you decide for clients which legal documents are appropriate for their needs and how information is put into the documents, you are engaging in the practice of law.

At this time, pursuant to GR 25(f)(4)(B), we request that you enter into a written agreement with this Board, to refrain from the following conduct:

- ◆ Giving advice or counsel to others as to their legal rights or the legal rights or responsibilities of others.
- ◆ Holding yourself out as authorized to select, draft or complete legal documents or pleadings for others;
- ◆ Any activity which is defined as the practice of law in GR 24.

We further ask you to stipulate that in the event you violate this agreement, you agree that this stipulation, evidence of your further violation, the investigative report to the Board of your past violations, the original complaint, your response, and all other evidence of such violations shall be turned over to the appropriate County Prosecutor's Office with a request from the Board that that office institute a criminal proceeding against you.

In the event you do not return this stipulation as signed and agreed to within 15 days of the mailing of this letter, the Board will issue its report and consider turning over its investigation along with a request for prosecution to the County Prosecutor's Office.

We are hopeful that we will be able to resolve these matters by stipulation. If you are willing to so stipulate, please sign and date your signature and have your signature witnessed by a person over the age of eighteen, who will also sign as the witness. The signed letter should be returned to the Board within 15 days.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Crossland', written in a cursive style.

Steve Crossland, Chair
Practice of Law Board

JS:as