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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: December 15, 2015

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PRESS RELEASE

HONOLULU - On December 11, 2015, the Hawai'i Supreme Court suspended Honolulu attorney ANDRÉ S. WOOTEN from the practice of law in three matters for a period of six months, effective January 11, 2016. The Court noted that a substantial period of suspension was necessitated to protect the public due to his pattern of misconduct.

In the first matter, Mr. Wooten violated the Hawai'i Rules of Professional Conduct when he charged his client a prohibited non-refundable retainer, did not communicate with her in a reasonable and timely matter, and failed to timely amend a Federal court complaint causing claims against two defendants to be time-barred.

In the second matter, Mr. Wooten overdrew his client trust account and did not maintain required client trust account records for his client.

In the last matter, Mr. Wooten violated the rules of professional conduct when he failed to obey a directive in an Intermediate Court of Appeals order.

As a prerequisite to his reinstatement to the practice of law, Mr. Wooten is required to provide proof of the successful

completion of the audit of his practice by the Practicing Attorneys Liability Management Society (PALMS) and payment of costs.

The public is cautioned and advised that Mr. Wooten will not be eligible to practice law until reinstated by the order of the Supreme Court. Mr. Wooten cannot accept any new retainers, clients, or legal matters, and he must also return to any existing clients their papers, property, and unearned advanced fee payments.

Mr. Wooten, 67, was admitted to the Hawai'i bar on May 3, 1985, and the Washington State bar on May 17, 1976.

(A copy of the Supreme Court's Order is available upon request.)

If there are any questions, please contact me at (808) 521-4591, extension 240.

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