

**SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN**  
**OFFICE OF LAWYER REGULATION**

---

Public Reprimand with Consent

2014-OLR- 3

Jeremy T. Ford  
Attorney at Law

---

On the evening of December 15, 2011, Attorney Ford and his wife arrived at the Redwood City, California Caltrain station to take a train to their home in San Francisco. Ford had a pass and boarded the train while his wife bought a ticket from the ticket processor on the train deck. As the doors of the train began to close, Ford intervened and held the doors open so his wife could board the train.

After boarding, a Caltrain conductor approached Ford and told him he needed to leave the train because he had created an “unsafe environment” by holding the doors open for his wife. When Ford refused to leave the train, law enforcement officers from San Mateo County and Redwood City were dispatched to the train. The officers asked Ford and his wife to leave the train. Ford refused to exit and insisted that he had done nothing wrong, at which point the officers took steps to arrest and forcibly remove Ford from the train. Ford actively resisted removal from the train, and responded to an officer’s commands by telling the officer, “Fuck you, get off me!” Ford also called the officer a “douchebag.”

After removal from the train, Ford continued to resist. He ignored law enforcement commands that he sit down on a bench. He continued to yell and scream that law enforcement had no authority over him. At one point, according to police reports, Ford bit a deputy on the

inside of his forearm, and in response to the bite the deputy punched Ford in the face three times, breaking Ford's nose. Police reports further state that when the deputy tried to assist another officer, who according to police reports was being kicked by Ford's wife, Ford reached for the deputy's Taser and baton. Ultimately, another deputy used pepper spray to subdue Ford, who continued to struggle, scream and yell. At this point, the officers requested back-up, and additional law enforcement officers arrived to assist in subduing Ford. Ford was restrained on a gurney and transported to San Mateo County General Hospital for treatment. During this time, Ford commanded his wife to call 911 to have someone other than "these dickhead cops" come help him. According to incident reports, Ford was intoxicated and had marijuana in his possession. The Caltrain train was delayed 27 minutes at the station due to the incident.

On January 6, 2012, the District Attorney for San Mateo County, California, charged Ford with multiple misdemeanor counts, including resisting arrest and battery on an officer. *See People of California v. Jeremy Ford*, Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, Case No. SM379337B.

On February 6, 2013, Ford pleaded no contest to one count of resisting arrest (misdemeanor), in violation of California Penal Code 148(a)(1), and all remaining charges were dismissed. The Court sentenced Ford to 20 days in jail, (sentence suspended with community service), probation for two years, and applicable fines.

By engaging in conduct leading to his conviction for one misdemeanor count of resisting arrest in violation of California PC 148(a), Ford violated SCR 20:8.4(b), which states, "It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to commit a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects."

By refusing to cooperate with law enforcement, actively resisting arrest, biting a law enforcement officer, and otherwise engaging in belligerent and obstreperous conduct, Ford engaged in offensive personality, in violation of SCR 20:8.4(g), which provides, “It is professional misconduct to: . . . (g) violate the Attorney’s Oath” and SCR 40.15 (the Attorney’s Oath) which states, in pertinent part, “I will abstain from all offensive personality.”

While Ford provided telephonic notice that he had been convicted of a criminal charge, Ford failed to provide timely written notice to the clerk of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin and the Office of Lawyer Regulation of his conviction, even after being reminded of this obligation by the Office of Lawyer Regulation. Accordingly, Ford violated SCR 21.15(5), which states, “An attorney found guilty or convicted of any crime on or after July 1, 2002, shall notify in writing the office of lawyer regulation and the clerk of the Supreme Court within 5 days after the finding or conviction, which ever first occurs.” SCR 21.15(5) is enforceable through SCR 20:8.4(f), which states, “It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to violate a . . . supreme court rule . . . regulating the conduct of lawyers

Ford has no prior discipline.

In accordance with SCR 22.09, Attorney Jeremy T. Ford of Redwood City, California, is hereby publicly reprimanded.

Dated this 24th day of April, 2014.

SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

*/s/ Dennis J. Flynn*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis J. Flynn, Referee