

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Eric C. Larson,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	File No. WC-2011-0409
)	
Woodland Manor Water Company, LLC,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: July 22, 2011

Effective Date: July 22, 2011

The Missouri Public Service Commission is ordering an appearance on behalf of respondent through a lawyer admitted to practice in Missouri.

On July 22, 2011, the Commission received an answer. The answer includes allegations of legally significant facts but also states that the person filing the answer is the chief operating officer for respondent, which is described as “LLC.” An LLC—limited liability company—is subject to treatment as a separate person like a corporation.¹

Pleading on behalf of another person, including a legal entity, constitutes the practice of law.² Admission to practice before the Commission is subject to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 9 and Commission Regulation 4 CSR 240-2.040, and the Commission has a duty to guard against the unauthorized practice of law.³ Also, matters consisting of the unauthorized practice of law are void.⁴

¹ *Howard v. Turnbull*, 316 S.W.3d 431, 437 (Mo. App., W.D., 2010).

² *Reed v. Labor & Indus. Relat. Comm'n*, 789 S.W.2d 19, 22-23 (Mo. banc 1990).

³ *Id.* at 23-24.

⁴ *Id.* at 23.

The answer bears a signature and name but includes no Missouri Bar number and the Official Missouri Directory of Lawyers reveals no member of the Missouri Bar by that name. The Commission will allow time for applicant to show compliance with the provisions of law cited above before the Commission takes further action. In the meantime, nothing prevents Staff from using the answer in its investigation and recommendation.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than August 5, 2011, applicant shall appear through a lawyer admitted to practice in Missouri.
2. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

(S E A L)

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

Daniel Jordan, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 22nd day of July, 2011.