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OF THE

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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February 15, 1996

## <u>Certified Mail - R.R.R.</u> <u>and Regular Mail</u>

John H. C. West, Esq. 6601 Ventnor Avenue, Suite 109 Ventnor, New Jersey 08406

RE: In the Matter of John H.C. West

Docket No. DRB 95-441 LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. West:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, between July and September 1992, you were retained by Wilber D. Belcher to prepare a motion for post-conviction relief or for accelerated parole. Notwithstanding your duty to represent your client's interests diligently, you were tardy in moving forward with the representation and did not promptly reply to your client's inquiries about the matter. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of  $\underline{RPC}$  1.3 and  $\underline{RPC}$  1.4(a).

Your conduct adversely reflected not only upon you as an attorney but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you.  $\underline{R}.1:20-15(f)(4)$ .

A permanent record of this occurrence has been filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court and the Board's office. Should you become the subject of any further discipline, it will be taken into consideration.

John H. C. West, Esq. February 15, 1996 Page Two

The Board has also directed that the costs of the disciplinary proceedings be assessed against you. An affidavit of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Robyn/M. Hill

## RMH/dm

C: Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz
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Wilber D. Belcher, Grievant