

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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July 16, 2004

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VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R & REGULAR MAIL

Richard J. Cohen, Esq. 1864 Route 70 East Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003-2029

> In the Matter of Richard J. Cohen Docket No. DRB 04-209 District Docket No. IV-04-017E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Cohen:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (admonition) filed by the Office of Attorney Ethics in the above matter. Following a review of the record, the Board determined to grant the motion and to impose an admonition.

Specifically, for a period of nineteen months, from September 25, 2000 to May 1, 2002, you practiced law in New Jersey despite being ineligible to do so for failure to pay the annual assessment to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection ("CPF"). Your conduct was unethical and a violation of RPC 5.5(a).

In mitigation, the Board considered that you did not receive the CPF notice of payment due because you moved your office location, that no harm resulted to any clients or the public at large, and that you immediately paid the outstanding amounts, upon being notified delinquency.

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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. 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.

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

Very truly yours,

Julianne K. DeCore Chief Counsel

Juliane K. Ollore

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Enclosures:

C: Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk,
Supreme Court of New Jersey
Mary J. Maudsley, Chair,
Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director,
Office of Attorney Ethics
Patricia B. Santelle, Chair,
District IV Ethics Committee
John M. Palm, Secretary,
District IV Ethics Committee