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October 22, 2003

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(CORRECTED LETTER)

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

Kevin S. Quinlan, Esq. 207 West Main Street Tuckerton, New Jersey 08087

RE: In the Matter of Kevin S. Quinlan Docket No. DRB 03-228

District Docket No. IIIB-01-036E LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Quinlan:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was unethical. Specifically, on or about November 30, 2000, you represented Louis Aquila in the purchase of real property located in Ocean County. Following the closing, you held \$1,000 in escrow, pending the completion of repairs to the house. Despite your obligation to keep the funds intact until the satisfaction of the escrow agreement, you prematurely released the \$1,000 to the seller, without first obtaining your client's authorization. Your conduct was improper and in violation of RPC 1.15. In addition, you failed to timely reply to your client's telephone calls, in violation of RPC 1.4(a).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you mistakenly believed that you had your client's consent to the release of the escrow monies.

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The Board also noted that no disciplinary infractions have been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1993.

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.

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,

Julianne K. DeCore Acting Chief Counsel

Juliane L. alelou

JKD/paa

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, Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Stan R. Gregory, Chair, District IIIB Ethics Committee
Cynthia S. Earl, Secretary, District IIIB Ethics Committee
Robert F. Rupinski, Esq., Respondent's Counsel
Louis A. Aquila, Grievant