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June 22, 2004

Certified Mail - R.R.R. and Regular Mail

William N. Stahl, Esq.
15 Highland Avenue
Montclair, New Jersey 07042

Re: In the Matter of William N. Stahl
Docket No. DRB 04-166
District Docket Nos. VC-02-018E and VC-02-019E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Stahl:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, at a time when you ineligible to practice law in New Jersey for failure to pay the annual assessment to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection ("The Fund"), you filed a complaint on behalf of Anthony Mosca, on April 10, 2002, and made a court appearance on behalf of Michael Peck, on June 13, 2002. The Peck hearing was adjourned to July 3, 2002.

On July 1, 2002, you received an e-mail from your adversary in the Peck matter, questioning your eligibility status in New Jersey. The next day, you forwarded a \$1,200 payment to the Fund, which, because of post-9/11 internal security measures, was not received until July 4, 2002. The court would not allow you to proceed with Peck's representation on July 3, 2002.

Your conduct in the Mosca and Peck matters violated RPC 5.5(a) (unauthorized practice of law).

You also failed to maintain a business and a trust account in New Jersey, in violation of R. 1:21-6 and RPC 1.15(d).


In mitigation, the Board considered that you had not practiced law in New Jersey since 1997, that you had no knowledge of your ineligibility, that you corrected your ineligible status as soon as you became aware of it, that you have no record of discipline, and that, in representing those clients, you were moved by humanitarian reasons. Indeed, you received no compensation for representing Michael Peck and, as to Anthony Mosca, your purpose was not to enrich yourself, but to help a friend's cousin who was disabled.

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

/tk

c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
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Monica Peck, Grievant