DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

THE COURT

RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX P. O. BOX 962 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0962 (609) 292-1011

June 7, 2000

ROBYN M. HILL

ISABEL FRANK
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

LILLIAN LEWIN
DONA S. SEROTA-TESCHNER
COLIN T. TAMS
ELLEN A. BRODSKY
JOANN G. EYLER
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

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

Richard M. Thuring, Esq. 1253 Springfield Ave., Suite 238 New Providence, New Jersey 07974

Re:

LEE M. HYMERLING, ESQ., CHAIR

WILLIAM J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, ESQ.

MATTHEW P. BOYLAN, ESQ.

MARY J. MAUDSLEY, Esq.

BARBARA E. SCHWARTZ

SPENCER V. WISSINGER, III

HON WARREN BRODY

RUTH JEAN LOLLA

ROCKY L. PETERSON, ESQ., VICE-CHAIR

In the Matter of Richard M. Thuring

Docket No. DRB 00-086

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Thuring:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, during the course of your representation of Mary Redmond in a workers' compensation matter, you violated N.J.S.A. 34:15-64 and relevant caselaw when you charged your client a \$1,250 fee. By statute, once Ms. Redmond's employer made an unconditional and good faith offer of settlement before the pre-trial hearing or the trial, you were precluded from collecting a legal fee. Thereafter, despite Ms. Redmond's requests, you refused to return her fee. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of RPC 1.5. In addition to imposing an admonition, the Board determined to require you to comply with the unsatisfied conditions of an agreement in lieu of discipline signed on May 1, 1998, specifically paragraphs B1 and B2.

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.

I/M/O Richard M. Thuring DRB 00-086

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:ms

c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk
Supreme Court of New Jersey
Lee M. Hymerling, Chair
Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director
Office of Attorney Ethics.
James McGlew, II, Chair
District XII Ethics Committee
Nicholas Caruso, Secretary
District XII Ethics Committee
Mary A. Redmond, Grievant