## **DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD**

OF THE

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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

July 22, 2002

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

Bernard I. Weinstein 2704 Highway 9 South Howell, New Jersey 07731

> Re: <u>In the Matter of Bernard I. Weinstein</u> Docket No. DRB 02-209 District Docket No. IX-01-002E **LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in or about 1995 and 1997, respectively, you were retained to represent Julius Gladstone in connection with two personal injury cases. Despite your obligation to keep your client informed about the progress of the case, you failed to properly reply to his inquires. Your conduct was unethical and in violation <u>RPC</u> 1.4(a). You also failed to return your client's file to his new attorney, in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.16(d).

In mitigation, the Board considered that your inaction was not marked by venality, but was the product of inexperience in the area and lack of support staff.

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. <u>R</u>. 1:20-15(f)(4).

ROBYN M. HILL CHIEF COUNSEL

ISABEL FRANK DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

LILLIAN LEWIN DONA S. SEROTA-TESCHNER COLIN T. TAMS ELLEN A. BRODSKY JOANN G. EYLER *assistant counsel* 

## I/M/O Bernard I. Weinstein Docket No. DRB 02-209

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,

un m. Hill Robyn M. Hill

RMH:tk

c.

Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
Rocky L. Peterson, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Russell J. Malta, Esq., Chair, District IX Ethics Committee
Kathleen A. Sheedy., Esq., Secretary, District IX Ethics Committee
Julius Gladstone, Grievant