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October 20, 2008

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

Paul L. Abramo, Esq. 93 Main Street P.O. Box 12 Newton, New Jersey 07860-0012

Re: <u>In the Matter of Paul L. Abramo</u>

Docket No. DRB 08-209
District Docket No. XI-2006-0038E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Abramo:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in April 2003, you and John D. Williams, Esq. terminated your professional association. After Mr. Williams's departure from the firm, you continued to use the name "Abramo and Williams" on the firm's letterhead until 2006, despite Mr. Williams' requests, on May 23 and September 3, 2003, that his name be removed from any location or source indicating the existence of a professional association with you.

Your conduct was improper and a violation of <u>RPC</u> 7.5(c) and N.J. Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics Opinion 215, 94 <u>N.J.L.J.</u> 600 (1971), which permit the use of the name of an attorney no longer associated with a firm only when that attorney is retired. You knew that Mr. Williams was not retired. In September 2003, he notified you that he was not retired and that he intended to join a law firm as of September of that year.

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Your conduct has 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).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that no disciplinary infractions have been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1969.

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, Quliann K. Alelone

Julianne K. DeCore Chief Counsel

JKD/tk

District XI Ethics Committee

John D. Williams, Esq., Grievant