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November 9, 2005

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

Carl C. Belgrave, Esq. 60 Park Place, Suite 202 Newark, New Jersey 07102

: <u>In the Matter of Carl C. Belgrave</u>

Docket No. DRB 05-258

District Docket No. XIV-02-517E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Belgrave:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in November 1996, you were retained to represent Hortensia Creese in the purchase of a residence. You failed to state in writing the basis of your fee. As a result, there was confusion about whether a \$400 fee paid in October 1996 was for the real estate closing, or for a prior matrimonial matter for which you had provided services without payment. In addition, you admitted that you did not maintain required cash receipts and disbursements journals. Your conduct constituted a violation of RPC 1.5(b) and RPC 1.15(d).

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 1991, and that the misconduct occurred long ago, in 1996.



I/M/O Carl & Belgrave
Docket No. DRB 05-258
Page Two

The Board further determined to dismiss the following charged violations because the record did not provide clear and convincing evidence to sustain them: \underline{RPC} 1.1(a), \underline{RPC} 1.3, \underline{RPC} 1.4(a), \underline{RPC} 1.15(b), \underline{RPC} 1.15(c), \underline{RPC} 8.1(a), and \underline{RPC} 8.4(c).

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,

By Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

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JKD: EAB/hs

C. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz Associate Justices Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ethics history) Mary J. Maudsley, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics Douglas H. Amster, Chair, District VA Ethics Committee

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