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OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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April 23, 2010

Mark Neary, Clerk
Supreme Court of New Jersey
P.O. Box 970
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0962

Re: In the Matter of Richard P. Saunders
Docket No. DRB 10-010
District Docket No. XIV-2008-270E

Dear Mr. Neary:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (three-month suspension or such lesser discipline as the Board deems appropriate) filed by the Office of Attorney Ethics ("OAE"), pursuant to R. 1:20-10(b). Following a review of the record, the Board determined to grant the motion.

In the Board's view, a censure is the appropriate measure of discipline for respondent's violations of RPC 1.1(a) (gross neglect), RPC 1.15(a) (negligent misappropriation of client trust funds), and RPC 8.4(c) (misrepresentation).

Specifically, in 2006, in a real estate matter for client Boris Friedman, respondent grossly neglected the post-closing aspects of the transaction by not paying the realty transfer tax and recording the deed for a period of two years, a violation of RPC 1.1(a). In addition, respondent misrepresented to the OAE that he had recorded the deed, knowing that he had not yet done so, a violation of RPC 8.4(c), more specifically RPC 8.1(a). Respondent also negligently misappropriated the funds held for the realty

transfer tax, when he removed from those funds a legal fee earned in connection with an unrelated matter that he handled for Friedman, a violation of RPC 1.15(a).

In addition, in 2007, respondent negligently misappropriated funds belonging to clients Traier/Peterson and Graziano, as a result of his failure to reconcile his trust account records.

In mitigation, the Board considered that respondent has had no final discipline since his admission to the bar in 1985.

Enclosed are the following documents:

1. Notice of motion for discipline by consent, dated December 30, 2009.
2. Stipulation of discipline by consent, dated December 30, 2009.
3. Affidavit of consent, dated December 23, 2009.
4. Ethics history, dated April 23, 2010.

Very truly yours,



Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

JKD/sj
encls.

cc: Louis Pashman, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
(w/o encls.)
Charles Centinaro, Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
(w/o encls.)
Michael J. Sweeney, Deputy Ethics Counsel, Office of
Attorney Ethics (w/o encls.)
Richard P. Saunders, Respondent (w/o encls.)