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

October 31, 2011

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R.; REGULAR MAIL

Darryl W. Simpkins, Esq. Simpkins & Simpkins 856 Route 206 Hillsborough, NJ 08844

> RE: <u>In the Matter of Darryl W. Simpkins</u> Docket No. DRB 11-258 District Docket No. XIII-2010-0010E LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Simpkins:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (admonition), filed by the District Ethics XIII Committee, pursuant to <u>R.</u> 1:20-10. Following a review of the record, the Board determined to grant the motion and to impose an admonition.

Specifically, Marcia Gladden retained you in 2001 to represent her for injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Despite your obligation to represent your client's interests diligently, you never filed a complaint on her behalf, a violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.3. You also failed, after 2002, to adequately communicate with your client, who made numerous telephone calls to you, requesting information about the matter. Your failure to reply to Gladden's reasonable requests for information after 2002 constituted a violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.4(b).

JULIANNE K. DECORE CHIEF COUNSEL

ISABEL FRANK DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

ELLEN A. BRODSKY FIRST ASSISTANT COUNSEL LILLIAN LEWIN DONA S. SEROTA -TESCHNER COLIN T. TAMS KATHRYN ANNE WINTERLE ASSISTANT COUNSEL

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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).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that this is your first brush with the disciplinary system in twentyseven years at the bar.

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,

Chief Counsel

JKD/sj c. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner Associate Justices Louis Pashman, Chair Disciplinary Review Board Mark Neary, Clerk Supreme Court of New Jersey Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ethics history) Charles Centinaro, Director Office of Attorney Ethics Tara L. Johnson, Chair, District XIII Ethics Committee Donna P. Legband, Secretary, District XIII Ethics Committee Marcia Gladden, Grievant