## **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

January 25, 2013

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

Stephen W. Edwards, Esq. 100 Ocean Parkway Suite 2B Brooklyn, New York 11218-1750

> Re: <u>In the Matter of Stephen William Edwards</u> Docket No. DRB 12-319 District Docket No. IIB-2011-0003E LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Edwards:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Following a review of the record, the Board determined to impose an admonition.

Specifically, in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010, the Court issued orders declaring you ineligible to practice law for failure to pay the annual assessment to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. In addition, during those years, the Court declared you ineligible to practice for failure to comply with <u>R.</u> 1:28A-2 with regard to the mandatory IOLTA program. Although you were ineligible to practice law, you represented one client, in a civil matter, from October 21, 2009 to April 8, 2011. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.15(d), <u>RPC</u> 5.5(a) and <u>RPC</u> 8.4(a).

The Board dismissed the charged violation of RPC 8.1(b) for

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lack of clear and convincing evidence.

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. <u>R.</u> 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,

Julianne K. DeCore

Julianne K. DeCore Chief Counsel

JKD/lgn

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner c: 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 Victoria R. Pekerman, Chair District IIB Ethics Committee Nina C. Remson, Secretary District IIB Ethics Committee Robert Priestley, Grievant