IN THE MATTER OF

S. MICHAEL BENDER, a/k/a S. M. BENDER,

AN ATTORNEY AT LAW

(Attorney No. 257011969)



CORRECTED ORDER

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision concluding that as a matter of reciprocal discipline pursuant to Rule 1:20-14(a)(4)(E), S. MICHAEL BENDER, a/k/a S. M. BENDER, of TIERRA VERDE, FLORIDA, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1969, should be suspended from the practice of law for a period of three years based on a decision of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to exclude respondent from practice for unethical conduct that in New Jersey constitutes violations of RPC 1.1(b) (pattern of neglect), RPC 1.8(f) (accepting compensation for representing a client from one other than the client without client's informed consent), RPC 5.4(c) (permitting person who pays the lawyer to direct the lawyer's professional judgment in rendering legal services for another), and RPC 8.4(d) (conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice);

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **S. MICHAEL BENDER, a/k/a S. M. BENDER,** is suspended from the practice of law for a period of three years and until the further Order of the Court, effective immediately; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent comply with $\underline{\text{Rule}}$ 1:20-20 dealing with suspended attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to <u>Rule 1:20-20(c)</u>, respondent's failure to comply with the Affidavit of Compliance requirement of <u>Rule 1:20-20(b)(15)</u> may (1) preclude the Disciplinary Review Board from considering respondent's petition for reinstatement for a period of up to six months from the date respondent files proof of compliance; (2) be found to constitute a violation of <u>RPC 8.1(b)</u> and <u>RPC 8.4(c)</u>; and (3) provide a basis for an action for contempt pursuant to <u>Rule 1:10-2</u>; and it is further

ORDERED that the entire record of this matter be made a permanent part of respondent's file as an attorney at law of this State; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent reimburse the Disciplinary Oversight Committee for appropriate administrative costs and actual expenses incurred in the prosecution of this matter, as provided in Rule 1:20-17.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 22nd day of March, 2010.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

The foregoing is a true copy of the original on file in my office.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
OF NEW JERSEY