## DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

#### OF THE

#### SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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ASSISTANT COUNSEL

September 27, 2000

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

E. Lorraine Harris, Esq.

CONFIDENTIAL - REDACTED

Re:

In the Matter of E. Lorraine Harris

Docket No. DRB 99-037

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Ms. Harris:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. With the approval of the Supreme Court, the Board has concluded that an admonition is the appropriate discipline for your misconduct. Specifically, in early 1995 you were retained to represent Adrian Russell, Jr. in connection with a criminal charge and several motor vehicle citations. On April 6, 1995, you, Russell and Russell's mother, Ethel Cranmer, signed a letter stating that a \$1,000 retainer was payable to you immediately and that "[a]ny further arrangements for representations would be made at an agreed upon fee." By failing to provide to your client, in writing, the basis or the rate for your fee, you violated the provisions of RPC 1.5(b).

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.  $\underline{R}$ . 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.

# I/M/O E. Lorraine Harris DRB 99-037

The Board has also directed that the costs of the disciplinary proceedings be assessed against you. An affidavit of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Robyn M. Hill

#### RMH:ms

c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
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Supreme Court of New Jersey
Lee M. Hymerling, Chair
Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director
Office of Attorney Ethics.
Andrew Kushner, Chair
District IV Ethics Committee
Mark Kancher, Secretary
District IV Ethics Committee
Adrian Russell, Jr., Grievant