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**OF THE**  
**SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY**

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July 19, 2019

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

Kourtney Anna Borchers, Esq.  
c/o John A. Zohlman, III, Esq.  
57 Kresson Road  
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Re: In the Matter of Kourtney Anna Borchers  
Docket No. DRB 19-145  
District Docket No. XIV-2017-0296E  
**LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Ms. Borchers:

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 for your violation of RPC 1.15(d) (recordkeeping) and RPC 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation).

Specifically, you intentionally engaged in improper and deceitful conduct when you unilaterally availed yourself to a portion of legal fees, to which you were ultimately entitled, but which should have first flowed through your prior firm's trust account, as required by both the express terms of your employment agreement and your prior firm's compensation practices. Moreover, you failed to abide by R. 1:21-6(a)(2), which requires that attorneys maintain an attorney business account and deposit earned legal fees in such account, in respect of that portion of legal fees. You, thus, violated RPC 1.15(d) and RPC 8.4(c).

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The Board determined that, in light of the unique facts of this case, your “self-help” misconduct did not constitute the knowing misappropriation of law firm funds. In imposing only an admonition, the Board determined that, at the time of your misconduct, your judgment was clouded by the sudden and shocking termination of your employment from your prior firm, which caused you to engage in short-sighted, aberrational behavior. In addition, the Board allocated substantial weight to your unblemished disciplinary history, your extensive pro bono and public service, and your remorse for your misconduct. Moreover, the Board found no aggravating factors.

Your conduct has adversely reflected not only on you as an attorney but also on all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you. 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, this admonition will be taken into consideration.

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

Very truly yours,



Ellen A. Brodsky  
Chief Counsel

c: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner  
Associate Justices  
Heather Joy Baker, Clerk  
Supreme Court of New Jersey  
Bruce W. Clark, Chair  
Disciplinary Review Board (e-mail)  
Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk  
Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ ethics history)  
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Office of Attorney Ethics (interoffice mail and e-mail)