SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY D-138 September Term 2021

087436

In the Matter of

Morton Chirnomas,

:

An Attorney At Law

(Attorney No. 045061990)

ORDER

FILED

MAY 10 2023

(Heather & Baken

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 20-249, recommending that as a matter of reciprocal discipline, pursuant to Rule 1:20-14(a)(4), that Morton Chirnomas of Clifton, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1990, should be suspended from the practice of law for a period of six months for violating RPC 1.3 (lack of diligence), RPC 1.4(b)(failure to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and to comply with reasonable requests for information), RPC 1.15(a)(commingling), RPC 1.16(d)(upon termination of representation, failing to take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect a client's interests), RPC 8.1(b)(failing to cooperate with disciplinary authorities), and RPC 8.4(c)(engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation);

And the Court having further determined that any petition for reinstatement shall provide a certification of whether the USPTO filing fee has been refunded to FZU; and good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that Morton Chirnomas is suspended from the practice of law for a period of six months, and until the further Order of the Court, effective June 12, 2023; and it is further

ORDERED that any petition for reinstatement shall provide a certification of whether the USPTO filing fee has been refunded to FZU; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent comply with <u>Rule</u> 1:20-20 dealing with suspended attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 1:20-20(c), respondent's failure to comply with the Affidavit of Compliance requirement of <u>Rule</u> 1:20-20(b)(15) 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</u> 8.1(b) and <u>RPC</u> 8.4(d); and (3) provide a basis for an action for contempt pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 1:10-2; 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 <u>Rule</u> 1:20-17.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 2nd day of May, 2023.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

Heather Bake