DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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June 14, 1995

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Edward J. Kelley, Esq. KELLEY, TARLETON & WINKLER 784 Franklin Avenue Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417

> RE: <u>In the Matter of Edward J. Kelley</u> Docket No. DRB 94-208 **LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Mr. Kelley:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was unethical. With the approval of the Supreme Court, the Board has concluded that an admonition is the appropriate discipline for your misconduct.

Specifically, from March 1989 to December 1992, you retained \$2,912.17 in interest earned on client trust account deposits, in violation of <u>Opinion</u> No. 326, 99 <u>N.J.L.J</u>. 298 (1976). In addition, a review of your books and records disclosed four minor recordkeeping deficiencies, in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.15(d).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that no disciplinary infractions had been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1985, that you voluntarily reported this matter to the Office of Attorney Ethics, that your misconduct was the result of inexperience and that the recordkeeping deficiencies caused no loss or temporary invasion of client funds. Page Two In the Matter of Edward J. Kelley

Your conduct reflected not only upon you as an attorney but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board, as authorized by Order of the Supreme Court of New Jersey dated April 26, 1995, has directed the issuance of this letter of admonition to you. <u>R</u>. 1:20-4(f)(2).

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 proceeding be assessed against you. An affidavit of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Koly M. Hill Robyn M. Hill

RMH/rt

cc: Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz Associate Justices Stephen W. Townsend, Esq. Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey Raymond R. Trombadore, Esq. Chair, Disciplinary Review Board David E. Johnson, Jr., Esq. Director, Office of Attorney Ethics Mark Tarantino, Esq.