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May 21, 1996

**Certified Mail - R.R.R.
and Regular Mail**

John J. Novak, Esq.
1054 River Avenue
Lakewood, New Jersey 0801

RE: In the Matter of John J. Novak
Docket No. DRB 96-094
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Novak:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in April of 1991, following a discussion in chambers with Judge Turnbach, as you were leaving the judge's chambers and proceeding through the anteroom, you engaged in a "verbal exchange" with Judge Turnbach's secretary, Lois Metcalf. As stipulated at hearing, the verbal exchange involved "loud, verbally aggressive, improper and obnoxious language" on your part. In addition, you apparently made comments thereafter to individuals in the deed recording room concerning Ms. Metcalf.

Your conduct violated RPC 3.2, in that you failed to "treat with courtesy and consideration all persons involved in the legal process."

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that, at the time of this offense, you had been admitted to practice for approximately one year. In addition, you have not been involved in any further incidents of this type.

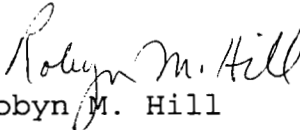
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Your conduct adversely reflected not only upon you as an attorney but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you. R.1:20-15(f)(4).

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.

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/dm

c: Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz
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