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May 2, 1996

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

Laura P. Scott, Esq.  
88 Alfred Street  
Clifton, New Jersey 07013

RE: In the Matter of Laura P. Scott  
Docket No. DRB 96-091  
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Ms. Scott:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on November 25, 1992, you represented David and Kateryna Bechtel in the refinancing of a mortgage on their residence. Despite your obligation to represent your clients' interests diligently, you did not remit certain fees to the title company and to the mortgage company until June 1993, six months after the closing. You also failed to comply with the Bechtels' numerous requests for information on potential unpaid closing costs. In addition, you failed to deposit \$527 in cash into either your trust account or your business account, from which the closing funds would then be disbursed. Furthermore, you did not submit to the Bechtels proof of \$97 in "reimbursement for costs/fees" and did not reimburse them for that amount. Your conduct violated RPC 1.3, RPC 1.4, RPC 1.15(b) and RPC 1.15(d).

The Board also determined to require you to reimburse the amount of \$610 to the Bechtels, as recommended by the district ethics committee. In addition, for a period of two years, you shall submit to the Office of Attorney Ethics an annual audit of

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your attorney records to be conducted by an independent auditor approved by that office. You shall also attend a course on accounting for attorneys, offered by the Institute for Continuing Legal Education. Proof of the ordered reimbursement together with proof of completion of the required accounting course, is to be provided to the Office of Attorney Ethics.

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  
Associate Justices  
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk  
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Disciplinary Review Board  
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Office of Attorney Ethics  
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District XI Ethics Committee  
Robert L. Strober, Esq., Secretary  
District XI Ethics Committee  
Timothy N. Tuttle, Esq.  
Counsel for Respondent  
David and Kateryna Bechtel  
Grievants