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April 27, 1998

Ronald E. Burgess, Esq.  
430 Market Street  
P.O. Box 811  
Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Re: In the Matter of Ronald E. Burgess  
Docket No. DRB 97-488

Dear Mr. Burgess:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in connection with your representation of the estate of Irene Nurkiewicz, you failed to recommend a "distribution in-kind" of certain unmarketable assets of the estate for a period of one year; failed to contact the Surrogate Court to obtain a new administrator; failed to provide the beneficiaries with an accounting of the estate, despite your written promise to do so; failed to obtain the accounting from the executor and failed to communicate with the grievant/beneficiaries. Your conduct in this regard was unethical and violative of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.4. In addition, you admitted a failure to properly maintain an attorney business account, in violation of R.1:21-6 and RPC 1.15(d).

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.

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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

/ghv

cc: Chief Justice Deborah T. Portiz  
Associate Justices  
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk  
Supreme Court of New Jersey  
Lee M. Hymerling, Esq., Chair  
Disciplinary Review Board  
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director  
Office of Attorney Ethics  
Audrey Tudor, Grievant  
Alexander R. Koproski, Grievant