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December 20, 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL - R.R.R. & REGULAR MAIL

Ousmane D. Al-Misri, Esq. 20-24 Branford Place Suite 505 Newark, NJ 07102

Re:

In the Matter of Ousmane D. Al-Misri

Docket No. DRB 02-351

LETTER OF ADMONITION

VA-00-002 E

Dear Mr. Al-Misri:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Following a <u>de novo</u> review of the record, supplemented by oral argument, the Board determined to impose an admonition. Specifically, in connection with your representation of Denise Barnett-Daniels in a residential real estate closing, you failed to take corrective action regarding mistakes that you made as settlement agent, in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.1(a) and <u>RPC</u> 1.3. Moreover, you failed to keep your client reasonably informed about the status of her matter, in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.4(a). Finally, you failed to utilize a retainer agreement, in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.5(b).

The Board dismissed the remaining allegations for lack of clear and convincing evidence.

In the Matter of Ousmane D. Al-Misri, Esq. Docket No. DRB 02-351
Page 2

In imposing only an admonition, the Board noted that your misconduct stemmed largely from your inexperience in real estate transactions.

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. $\underline{R}.1:20-15(f)(4)$. The Board also required ten hours of real estate courses by ICLE or a similar body approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics ("OAE") and the assistance of a proctor for future real estate transactions.

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,

Kolym M. Hill
Robyn M. Hill

RMH/CTT/

Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
Rocky L. Peterson, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Joseph A. Gallo, Chair, District
VA Ethics Committee
James A. Scarpone, Secretary, District VA Ethics Committee
Denise Barnett-Daniels, Grievant