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OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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September 22, 1999

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

Michael A. Amantia, Esq.
1931 Nottingham Way
Trenton, New Jersey 08619

Re: In the Matter of Michael A. Amantia
Docket No. DRB 98-402
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Amantia:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. With the approval of the Supreme Court, the Board has concluded that an admonition is the appropriate discipline for your misconduct. Specifically, in or about August 1994 you were retained by Agnes Witkun to probate the will of her deceased brother, Joseph Zarodnansky. Notwithstanding your duty to represent your clients' interests responsibly, you failed to diligently pursue the settlement of the estate, in violation of RPC 1.3. In addition, over the entire course of your representation you corresponded with the estate beneficiaries only twice about the substance of the case, in January 1995 and January 1996. Aside from not keeping the beneficiaries apprised of the status of the matter, you failed to inform them about overdue taxes and a deathbed gift, information that was critical to allow them to make informed decisions regarding the case. Your conduct in this regard violated RPC 1.1(a) and RPC 1.4(a) and (b).

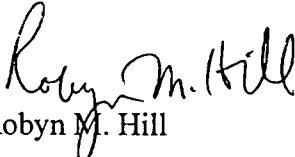
Your conduct adversely reflected not only upon you as an attorney, but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you. R. 1:20-15 (f) (4).

I/M/O Michael A. Amantia
DRB 98-402

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:ms

- c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
- Associate Justices
- Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk
- Supreme Court of New Jersey
- Lee M. Hymerling, Chair
- Disciplinary Review Board
- David E. Johnson, Jr., Director
- Office of Attorney Ethics.
- Jeffrey S. Posta, Chair
- District VII Ethics Committee
- Alan G. Frank, Jr., Secretary
- District VII Ethics Committee
- Paul Zarodnansky and Pauline Williams, grievants