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June 22, 2004

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

Samuel Fishman, Esq. 11450 Bustleton Avenue First Floor Philadelphia, PA 19116

Re:

In the Matter of Samuel Fishman Docket No. DRB 04-142 District Docket No. IV-03-003E LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Fishman:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, from September 15, 1997 through August 30, 2002, you were ineligible to practice law in New Jersey for failure to pay the annual assessment to the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. During this period, you filed a complaint in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Camden County, on behalf of Fedor Burunchenko, on February 19, 2002. Thereafter, and continuing to May 23, 2003, you handled all aspects of the litigation through discovery and motion practice. In addition, on September 4, 2001, you signed a retainer agreement in connection with the representation of Gwendolyn Jones. Your conduct violated RPC 5.5(a) (unauthorized practice of law).

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In addition, you failed to maintain a trust and a business account in New Jersey, as required by \underline{R} . 1:21-6. Your conduct in this regard violated \underline{RPC} 1.15(d).

In mitigation, the Board considered that you were contrite at the hearing below, that you had no knowledge of your ineligibility, that you corrected your recordkeeping deficiency with dispatch, and that you have no record of discipline.

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 invoice of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Julianne K. DeCore

/tk

Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
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