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November 25, 2003

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

Mark Krassner, Esq.
285 Pascack Road - Suite 5
Washington Township, New Jersey 07676

Re: In the Matter of Mark Krassner
Docket No. DRB 03-307
District Docket No. VB-01-018E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Krassner:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in late 1998, you were retained to represent Reyna Torres in a matrimonial matter, for which you received a \$1,500 retainer. On December 18, 1998, you wrote to the attorney for Mrs. Torres' husband, informing him that you had been retained by Mrs. Torres and requesting a copy of Mr. Torres' case information statement. On January 13 and March 3, 1999, you informed Mrs. Torres' daughter that you had not heard from Mr. Torres' attorney. One year went by with no further communications from you.

In June 2000, Mrs. Torres discovered that her social security records listed her marital status as divorced. When you were apprised of this occurrence, you replied that you were unable to confirm whether there was a judgment of divorce against Mrs. Torres because you needed a court

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docket number or more details concerning the alleged divorce. Using the docket number of the summons and complaint served on Mrs. Torres, however, you could have easily obtained that information. Ultimately, Mrs. Torres secured a copy of the final judgment of divorce, which she provided to you. Thereafter, you wrote to Mrs. Torres' daughter, outlining the chronology of the events and the need to bring an order to show cause to vacate the judgment. Nevertheless, you never filed an order to show cause or other legal action to vacate the final judgment of divorce against Mrs. Torres. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of RPC 1.1(a), RPC 1.3, and RPC 1.4(a).

In mitigation, the Board considered that you returned the \$1,500 retainer to Mrs. Torres and that no disciplinary infractions have been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1985.

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,

Ellen A. Brady
for Julianne K. DeCore

/tk

- c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
- Associate Justices
- Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
- Mary J. Maudsley, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
- David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
- Robert E. Brenner, Chair, District VB Ethics Committee
- Seth Ptasiwicz, Secretary, District VB Ethics Committee
- Celia Vattay, Grievant