

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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April 21, 1999

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

Michael K. Mullen, Esq.
Schenk, Price, Smith & King
10 Washington Street
PO Box 905
Morristown, NJ 07963

Re: In the Matter of Michael K. Mullen
Docket No. DRB 98-067
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Mullen:

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 April 1994 you were retained to represent your grandmother's estate in the probate of the will, distribution of assets, preparation of tax returns and communication with the beneficiaries. In the course of your representation, you allowed the estate to languish for a period of one and one-half years and failed to comply with one of the beneficiaries' numerous efforts to obtain information about the progress of the case. Your conduct was unethical and violated RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.4(a).

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.

I/M/O Michael K. Mullen
DRB 98-067

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
- Mark Mohr, Chair
- District XII Ethics Committee
- Nicholas Caruso, Secretary
- District XII Ethics Committee
- Laurence E. Mullen, Grievant