

# DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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September 26, 2000

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

Diane K. Murray, Esq.  
2474 Kennedy Boulevard  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304

Re: In the Matter of Diane K. Murray  
Docket No. DRB 98-342  
**LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Ms. Murray:

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, on July 27, 1995 you represented Linda Bayus in the purchase of a house. Before the closing, Bayus gave your secretary, Kim Russell, two checks totaling approximately \$1,500 to cover, among other things, title insurance and recording of the deed. Three months after the closing, it was discovered that Russell had stolen the checks. Notwithstanding your duty to represent your client's interests diligently, you did not record the deed and obtain title insurance until fifteen months and two and one-half years after the closing, respectively. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of RPC 1.1(a) and RPC 1.3. In addition, you violated RPC 1.4(a) when you failed to reply to your client's numerous requests for information about the matter. Lastly, you violated RPC 1.15(d) when you failed to reconcile your trust account records in a timely fashion and to discover the irregularities in the account from October 1995 until March 1996.

In imposing only an admonition, the Board and the Court considered that your client did not suffer any harm or incur any additional expenses as a result of your ethics infractions.

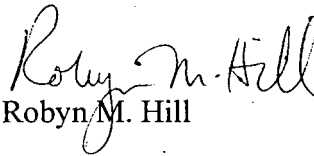
Your conduct adversely reflected not only upon you as an attorney, but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you. R. 1:20-15 (f) (4).

I/M/O Diane K. Murray  
DRB 98-342

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  
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Disciplinary Review Board  
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director  
Office of Attorney Ethics.  
Sharon Rivenson Mark, Chair  
District VI Ethics Committee  
Jack Jay Wind, Secretary  
District VI Ethics Committee  
Jay M. Liebman, Esq., Respondent's counsel  
Linda and Martin Bayus, Grievants