DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

ROCKY L. PETERSON, ESQ., CHAIR
MARY J. MAUDSLEY, ESQ., VICE-CHAIR
MATTHEW P. BOYLAN, ESQ.
HON. WARREN BRODY
RUTH JEAN LOLLA
WILLIAM J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, ESQ.
LOUIS PASHMAN, ESQ.
BARBARA F. SCHWARTZ
SPENCER V. WISSINGER, III



RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX P. O. BOX 962 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0962 (609) 292-1011 ROBYN M. HILL

ISABEL FRANK

LILLIAN LEWIN
DONA S. SEROTA-TESCHNER
COLIN T. TAMS
ELLEN A. BRODSKY
JOANN G. EYLER
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

March 15, 2002

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

Joseph Taboada, Jr., Esq. 949 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Re:

In the Matter of Joseph Taboada, Jr.

Docket No. DRB 01-453

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Taboada:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on or about December 16, 1996, you were retained to obtain permanent legal resident status for Reginaldo Ramirez, based upon his marriage to a United States citizen. Although you had not regularly represented Mr. Ramirez, you did not communicate to him, in writing, the basis or rate of the fee before or within a reasonable time after the beginning of the representation. Your conduct was improper and in violation of <u>RPC</u> 1.5(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. \underline{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 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

Rocky L. Peterson, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board

David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics

Kevin Jespersen, Chair, District VB Ethics Committee

Michael Haratz, Secretary, District VB Ethics Committee

Reginaldo and Jennifer Ramirez, Grievants