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April 25, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R. & REGULAR MAIL

Richard J. Cohan, Esq.
99 Warren Road
West Orange, NJ 07052

RE: In the Matter of Richard J. Cohan
Docket No. DRB 04-272
District Docket No. XIV-03-619E; and
XIV-03-696E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Cohan:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in December 2003, as a result of two overdraft notices, the Office of Attorney Ethics conducted an audit of your attorney records, which disclosed trust account shortages ranging from \$400,000 to \$700,000 between March and November 2003. The trust account shortages were a direct result of your failure to verify the status of funds in, or to properly reconcile, your attorney trust account.

In addition to the negligent misappropriations caused by the lack of proper reconciliations, your recordkeeping was deficient in numerous other respects. Your actions were in contravention of R.1:21-6 and RPC 1.15(d).

In the Matter of Richard J. Cohan

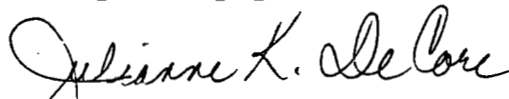
In issuing only an admonition, the Board considered your thirty years at the bar without discipline, and the significant additional pressure upon your law practice caused by a family member's serious illness.

Your conduct has 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 cost of the disciplinary proceedings be assessed against you. An affidavit of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,



Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

JKD/sw

c: Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
(w/ethics history)
Mary J. Maudsley, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Raymond S. Londa, Esq.