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February 22, 2005

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

Ronald W. Spevack, Esq.  
c/o Pamela Lynn Brause, Esq.  
Brause, Brause & Ventrice, L.L.C.  
276 Main Street  
CN-4001  
Metuchen, NJ 08840-4001

Re: In the Matter of Ronald W. Spevack  
Docket No. DRB 04-405  
District Docket No. VIII-03-018E  
**LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Mr. Spevack:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on August 30, 2002, you were retained by Mary Ellen Clark to pursue an appeal of a decision by the Social Security Administration ("SSA"). Clark's prior request for reconsideration of that decision, which she had filed on her own, had been denied on August 9, 2002.

On September 7, 2002, you sent a letter of representation to the local SSA branch, by certified mail, requesting a hearing on Clark's behalf before an administrative law judge of the Office of Hearings and Appeals. Because, however, the letter did not specifically request appeal forms, the SSA never sent them to you and, therefore, they were never completed and filed.

Three months after the date of your letter, Clark contacted the SSA and learned that the appeal had not been filed. She then filed the appeal on her own and obtained a favorable result. You saw no need to follow up on your September 7, 2002 letter because you were aware that, ordinarily, a six-month period elapsed between the request for a hearing and the scheduling of the hearing. Nevertheless, because you were aware that the SSA frequently misplaced papers, you should have assured yourself that the SSA had received your request and was processing it in its normal course of business. Your failure to do so constituted lack of diligence, a violation of RPC 1.3.

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that, although you did not specifically request appeal forms, your letter gave the SSA clear notice that you intended to file an appeal on Clark's behalf, and that the SSA never notified you that your "notice of appeal" was deficient because it lacked completed appeal forms. Although the Board was aware that you received a reprimand in 1997, the Board noted that the conduct in that matter -- the commingling of personal and trust funds and recordkeeping deficiencies -- was unrelated to the conduct that gave rise to the present disciplinary matter. The Board, therefore, did not find that you failed to learn from prior mistakes.

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.

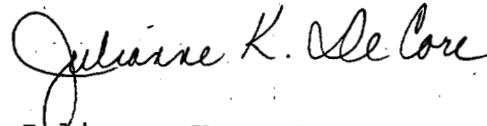
I/M/O Ronald W. Spevak

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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,



Julianne K. DeCore  
Chief Counsel

/tk

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

Barry A. Weisberg, Chair, District VIII Ethics Committee

Manny Gerstein, Secretary, District VIII Ethics Committee

Mary Ellen Clark, Grievant