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OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY



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March 4, 2009

Deborah A. Winston, Esq.
c/o Cassandra T. Savoy, Esq.
70 Park Street
Suite 300
Montclair, NJ 07042

In the Matter of Deborah A. Winston

Docket No. DRB 08-374

District Docket No. VB-06-0032E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Ms. Winston:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in 2005 you represented Abraham Wilson in a bankruptcy matter. Without having obtained your client's signature on the document, you electronically filed his motion to voluntarily dismiss the bankruptcy petition, thereby misrepresenting to the court that your client had actually signed an original of the document and that you would hold that document for seven years. Rather than obtain Wilson's signature on the motion, you orally obtained his authority to file it, admittedly an insufficient means of consent, under the applicable bankruptcy rules.

In mitigation, the Board considered that no disciplinary infractions have been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1987.

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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 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

JKD/sj

c: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
(w/ethics history)
Louis Pashman, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
Charles Centinaro, Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Marie-Ann Greenberg, Grievant