

Book

# DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

LEE M. HYMERLING, ESQ., CHAIR  
JAMES R. ZAZZALI, ESQ., VICE-CHAIR  
MICHAEL R. COLE, ESQ.  
HON. PAUL R. HUOT  
RUTH JEAN LOLLA  
MARY J. MAUDSLEY, ESQ.  
ROCKY L. PETERSON, ESQ.  
BARBARA F. SCHWARTZ  
WILLIAM H. THOMPSON, D.D.S.



RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX  
CN 962  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0962  
(609) 292-1011

ROBYN M. HILL  
CHIEF COUNSEL  
  
ISABEL FRANK  
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL  
  
ELLEN A. BRODSKY  
LILLIAN LEWIN  
DONA S. SEROTA-TESCHNER  
COLIN T. TAMS  
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

November 27, 1996

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

Steven M. Olitsky, Esq.  
1064 Clinton Avenue  
Irvington, New Jersey 07111

RE: In the Matter of Steven M. Olitsky  
Docket No. DRB 95-358  
District Docket No. VB-94-053E  
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Olitsky:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on or about September 18, 1990, at a time when you were a partner in the law firm of Abramowitz & Olitsky, you were retained to pursue a name-change application in behalf of Laverne Powell's minor child. You quoted a fee of \$475 to Ms. Powell, who advanced the sum of \$250 to the firm of Abramowitz & Olitsky. Ms. Powell was not presented with a retainer agreement for her signature. Thereafter, no work whatsoever was performed on the file, although Ms. Powell provided to you all the necessary information. Your conduct in not preparing and executing a fee retainer agreement violated RPC 1.5(b) inasmuch as you had not regularly represented Ms. Powell. In addition, you conduct in not informing Ms. Powell, upon non-payment of the \$475 fee, that the firm would not initiate the matter unless full payment was made violated RPC 1.4.

ASL


I/M/O Steven M. Olitzky  
Docket No. DRB 96-358  
Letter of Admonition  
Page 2

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.

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/dm

c: Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz  
Associate Justices  
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk  
Supreme Court of New Jersey  
Lee M. Hymerling, Esq., Chair  
Disciplinary Review Board  
David E. Johnson, Jr., Esq., Director  
Office of Attorney Ethics  
Kenneth J. Cesta, Esq., Chair  
District VB Ethics Committee  
Charles B. Clancy, III, Esq., Secretary  
District VB Ethics Committee  
Laverne P. Powell, Grievant