

Book

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SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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April 3, 1996

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

Dexter B. Blake, Esq.
 P.O. Box 409
 135 S. Finley Avenue
 Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

**RE: In the Matter of Dexter B. Blake
 Docket No. DRB 95-223
 LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Mr. Blake:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was unethical. With the approval of the Supreme Court, the Board has concluded that an admonition is the appropriate discipline for your misconduct.

Specifically, in October 1992 you were retained by Kathleen Sullivan to represent her and a corporation of which she was a principal. The matter involved a contract dispute. After the filing of the complaint on March 2, 1993, you failed to forward to your adversary Ms. Sullivan's answers to interrogatories, as a result of which the complaint was dismissed without prejudice on June 28, 1993. You did not inform Ms. Sullivan of the dismissal of the complaint until three months later, in October 1993. You also failed to file a motion for the reinstatement of the complaint, despite your adversary's willingness not to object to such reinstatement if the answers to the interrogatories were supplied to him. In addition, you failed to reply to Ms. Sullivan's requests for information about the status of the matter. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.4(a).

I/M/O Dexter B. Blake
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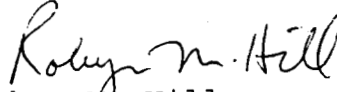
In mitigation, the Board considered your contrition and quick admission of wrongdoing and the fact that you were suffering from a debilitating depression during the representation.

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.

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 Robert N. Wilentz
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District XIII Ethics Committee
John F. Richardson, Esq.
Counsel for respondent
Kathleen A. Sullivan
Grievant