

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY



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November 2, 1994

REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R.

Joseph M. Clark, Esq.
106 Palisade Avenue
Englewood, NJ 07631

Re: In the Matter of Joseph M. Clark
Docket No. DRB 94-302
District Docket No. IIA-93-002E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, in July 1987, you were retained by Theresa Brown to represent her in connection with an automobile accident in which she sustained injury. Ms. Brown provided you with all requested information and the answers to interrogatories. Sometime in 1989 you stopped communicating with her about the status of the matter, despite her numerous inquiries. In March 1992, Ms. Brown retained another law firm to pursue her matter. Although one of the attorneys in that law firm requested the release of the file, you ignored those requests. You also failed to inform Ms. Brown that her claim against two of the four defendants had been dismissed. Your conduct was unethical and violated RPC 1.1(a), RPC 1.3, RPC 1.4(a), RPC 1.16(d) and RPC 8.4(c). Lastly, you failed to respond timely to the district ethics committee's request for information after the filing of the grievance, in violation of RPC 8.1(b).

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. Rule 1:20-4(f)(2).

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In the Matter of Joseph M. Clark

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 administrative 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
Robyn M. Hill

RMH/ghv

cc: Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz
Associate Justices
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