

Reprinted

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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



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

ROBYN M. HILL
CHIEF COUNSEL
ISABEL FRANK
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

PAULA T. GRANUZZO
LILLIAN LEWIN
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

DONA S. SEROTA-TESCHNER
DEPUTY COUNSEL

October 5, 1995

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

Scott J. Marum, Esq.
SINIS, BROSS & MARUM
201 Washington Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

RE: **In the Matter of Scott J. Marum**
Docket No. DRB 95-273
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Marum:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, you were retained by Louise Smith, the mother of Calvin Smith, to represent him in an action for injuries sustained in an accident on October 11, 1983. After the case was settled in January 1988, the proceeds of \$12,500 were deposited into court. Because Calvin was allegedly incompetent, the settlement proceeds could not be disbursed before the appointment of a legal guardian. You undertook to have Mrs. Smith appointed as legal guardian. Despite your obligation to represent your client's interests diligently, after July 1988 you did not take adequate steps to have Mrs. Smith appointed as Calvin's guardian. In addition, starting in 1990, you failed to comply with her numerous requests for information about the matter. Your conduct was unethical and violative of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.4(a).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered your prompt admission of wrongdoing and contrition.

Scott J. Marum, Esq.
October 5, 1995
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 cost 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/IF/dm

c: Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz
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
Julio C. Morejon, Esq., Chair
District VA Ethics Committee
Madeline E. Cox, Esq., Secretary
District VA Ethics Committee
Louis Smith, Grievant