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

ROBYN M. HILL
CHIEF COUNSEL

ISABEL FRANK
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

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ASSISTANT COUNSEL

November 24, 1998

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

David R. Bennett, Esq.
PO Box 628
28 Tennessee Avenue
Beach Haven Terrace, New Jersey 08008

Re: In the Matter of David R. Bennett
Docket No. DRB 98-371
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Bennett:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on or about April 2, 1996 you were assigned to represent Robert K. Hyer, pursuant to the New Jersey pro bono system. On at least four occasions in 1996 the Superior Court sent you correspondence with regard to that assignment. Notwithstanding your obligation to represent your client's interests responsibly, you failed to act with reasonable diligence and to give the matter the appropriate attention, in violation of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.1(a). Also, in the course of the committee's investigation of the grievance, you failed to cooperate with the investigator, in violation of RPC 8.1(b).

In a second matter, you were retained by Sheryl Kirby to handle a subdivision of real property located in Dover Township. Although you performed some services related to the subdivision approval, you failed to diligently pursue the matter and grossly neglected its handling, in violation of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.1(a).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that ultimately you refunded the excess retainer to Ms. Kirby and that no disciplinary infractions had been sustained against you since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1979.

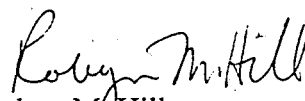
I/M/O David R. Bennett
Docket No. DRB 98-371

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:ms

c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
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