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February 9, 1998

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

Robert C. Gruhin, Esq.
371 Franklin Avenue
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

Re: In the Matter of Robert C. Gruhin
Docket No. DRB 97-403
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Gruhin:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Specifically, on August 22, 1996 you prepared a codicil to the will of Benno E. Seidler, a longstanding client of thirty-five years. In that codicil, Mr. Seidler bequeathed to you the sum of \$25,000. When Mr. Seidler passed away, you received the \$25,000 bequest without any objections from the residuary beneficiaries. Nevertheless, by not advising your client to seek independent counsel with respect to his desire to bequeath you the sum of \$25,000, you violated RPC 1.8(c). The Board found that \$25,000 was a substantial gift within the meaning of that RPC.

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you have been an attorney of the State of New Jersey for over fifty years with an unblemished record, that apparently you were unaware of the requirements of RPC 1.8(c) and that your conduct in handling the transaction was otherwise proper.

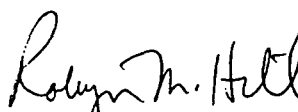
Your conduct adversely reflected not only upon you as an attorney, but also upon all members of the bar. Accordingly, the Board has directed the issuance of this admonition to you. R. 1:20-15 (f) (4).

I/M/O Robert C. Gruhin
DRB 97-403

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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