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November 30, 2011

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R & REGULAR MAIL

Robert C. Armstrong, Esq.
232 4th Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302

RE: In the Matter of Robert C. Armstrong
Docket No. DRB 11-309
District Docket No. XIV-2011-0031
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (admonition), filed by the Office of Attorney Ethics in the above matter, pursuant to R. 1:20-10. Following a review of the record, the Board determined to grant the motion and to impose an admonition.

Specifically, six months after you issued a July 6, 2010 trust account check payable to Godec Appraisal Service for \$600, the check was returned for insufficient funds. In the months between its issuance and the January 2011 presentation for payment, your bank had levied ordinary maintenance charges against your attorney trust account, but there were insufficient

Page Two

In the Matter of Robert C. Armstrong

funds available to cover those charges.¹ As a result, the bank charges invaded funds that you were required to hold in escrow on behalf of Godec.

Although no affirmative act of yours caused a negligent misappropriation of trust account funds, your neglect in failing to monitor the account and to recognize the need for an infusion of funds for bank fees amounted to a failure to safeguard client or escrow funds, a violation of RPC 1.15(a). The bank's use of client or escrow funds to defray bank charges was attributable to you and analogous to a negligent misappropriation caused by your neglect of your recordkeeping duties, a violation of RPC 1.15(d) and R. 1:21-6.

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).

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you have no prior discipline, in over thirty years at the bar.

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.

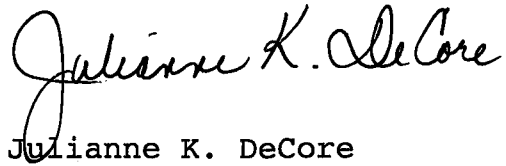
The Board has also directed that the costs of the disciplinary proceedings be assessed against you. An invoice of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

¹ Under RPC 1.15(a), it was permissible for you to leave sufficient personal funds in the trust account to pay ordinary bank fees.

Page Three

In the Matter of Robert C. Armstrong

Very truly yours,



Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

JKC/sj

c. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner

Associate Justices

Louis Pashman, Chair

Disciplinary Review Board

Mark Neary, Clerk

Supreme Court of New Jersey

Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk

Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ethics history)

Charles Centinaro, Director

Office of Attorney Ethics