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March 23, 2012

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R.; REGULAR MAIL

Na-Kyung Kang
c/o David M. Paris, Esq.
Piro Zinna Cifelli
360 Passaic Avenue
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

> Re: **In the Matter of Na-Nyung Kang**
> Docket No. DRB 11-434
> District Docket No.XI-2010-0016E
> **LETTER OF ADMONITION**

Dear Ms. Kang:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matter and has concluded that it was improper. Following a review of the record, the Board determined to impose an admonition.

Specifically, in December 2009, you met with Hyun Min Lee about his matrimonial matter. You reviewed the divorce complaint and prepared an answer to it but, through no fault of your own, did not file it. You asked your employer for the filing fee. However, he refused to pay it because, allegedly, Lee had not paid his full legal fee. Following your employer's refusal to pay the fee a second time, you stopped asking for it and forgot about the case.

After problems arose with your employer, your employment was terminated in mid-March 2010. You had no further contact

with Lee until June 2010, after he was served with the final judgment of divorce and was able to locate your new law office. During your meeting, you initially told Lee that you had filed an answer, but a few minutes later admitted that you had not done so because you had been unable to obtain the filing fee. Because Lee no longer trusted you, he retained a new attorney for his matrimonial matter.

You lacked diligence in handling Lee's divorce by failing to file an answer to the complaint and failed to properly communicate with Lee about his matter, violations of RPC 1.3 and RPC 1.4(b), respectively. The Board did not find clear and convincing evidence of the remaining charges in the complaint.

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that, at the time of your misconduct, you were a newly-admitted attorney and worked for a difficult employer, whom you feared and who held your legal status in this country in his hands; that, although you made a misrepresentation to Lee that you had filed an answer, you quickly corrected the statement before he could be misled by it; that Lee suffered no adverse consequences from your conduct; that you readily admitted your wrongdoing; that you sought a mentor for advice; and that you had no history of discipline.

Your conduct has 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 invoice of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

JKD/sl

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
      Bobbi J. Vilacha, Chair, District XI Ethics Committee
      Robert L. Stober, Secretary, District XI Ethics Committee
      Hyun Min Lee, Grievant