

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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ASSISTANT COUNSEL

April 27, 2012

Brian F. Fowler, Esq.
44 S. Maple Avenue, 2nd Floor
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

Re: In the Matter of Brian Fowler
Docket No. DRB 12-036
District Docket No. IIB-2008-0031E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Fowler:

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 2005, Joseph Reilly retained you to represent him and his brother in connection with an estate matter. You litigated and resolved that matter to Reilly's satisfaction. One related matter was ongoing, the sale of a property from the estate for \$100,000 cash and a twenty-year note payable to the estate. You were to collect funds in connection with the note on behalf of the estate.

From June 2006 until May 2009, you collected funds on behalf of the estate but did not supply an accounting as required. You received at least nineteen checks, which you did not deposit. Moreover you did not reply to more than a dozen inquiries from Reilly about the funds. Your conduct was unethical and a violation of RPC 1.4(b) and RPC 1.15(b).¹

¹The Board is aware that the matter has been resolved and that Reilly was to receive a lump sum payment for the moneys owed.

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The Board dismissed the charged violations of RPC 1.1(a), RPC 1.1(b), RPC 1.3, RPC 8.1(a), and RPC 8.1(b) for lack of clear and convincing evidence.

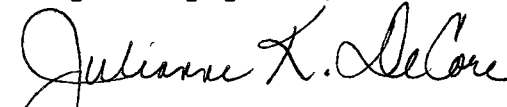
In imposing only an admonition, the Board was mindful of your psychological/psychiatric difficulties which have impeded your ability to represent your clients. The Board noted your two prior admonitions but concluded that, in light of the mitigating factors present, an admonition remains the appropriate measure of discipline in this matter.

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/paa

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

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Steven B. Harz, Chair
District IIB Ethics Committee
Nina C. Remson, Secretary
District IIB Ethics Committee
Joseph Reilly, Grievant