
IN THE MATTER OF :
: :
BASIL D. BECK :
: :
AN ATTORNEY AT LAW :
:

DISSENT

To the Honorable Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

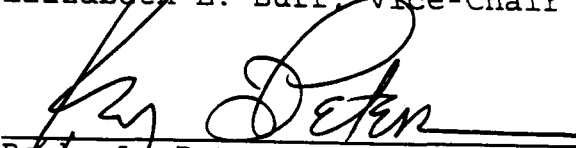
The District I Ethics Committee (DEC), Special Master Jeffrey K. Israelow and the Disciplinary Review Board have found respondent guilty of numerous ethics violations in ten cases. In that conclusion, there is unanimous agreement. The minority of the Board cannot agree, however, with the measure of discipline recommended by the Board's majority. Five Board members recommended to the Court that respondent be suspended for a period of three years and that a number of conditions be placed on him, both during the time of that suspension and following his return to practice. We cannot abide by that recommendation.

In our opinion, respondent's behavior cannot be controlled. The fact that respondent suffers from bipolar disorder cannot be blamed for flaws in his basic personality. It is clear to us, and to one member in particular, that whether respondent is "controlled" through medication or not, he fabricates excuses, and abuses the judicial system.

It is the responsibility of the legal system to protect the public, a task that appears impossible in this case. No trustee or proctor has been able to control respondent. In our view, he will constitute a threat to the public as long as he remains in the practice of law. For that reason, we must respectfully dissent from the majority's view and recommend disbarment.


Raymond R. Trombadore, Chair


Elizabeth L. Buff, Vice-Chair


Rocky L. Peterson