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SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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April 19, 2013

Thomas E. Downs, IV, Esq.
c/o Frederick J. Dennehy, Esq.
WILENTZ GOLDMAN & SPITZER
90 Woodbridge Center Drive
Suite 900, P.O. Box 10
Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095-0958

Re: **In the Matter of Thomas E. Downs, IV**
Docket No. DRB 12-407
District Docket No. VIII-2011-0051E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Downs:

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 for your ethics infractions.

Specifically, in August 2009, you agreed to represent Patricia Trygar in a business dispute with her partner. Although you undertook significant services with respect to the matter, you admittedly failed to communicate with your client, a violation of RPC 1.4(b). In addition, after the grievance was filed, you failed to reply to the ethics investigator's numerous attempts to contact you, a violation of RPC 8.1(b).

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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 took into consideration that you have an unblemished disciplinary history since your admission to the New Jersey bar in 1975.

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

JDK:paa

- C. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
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