# **DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD**

#### OF THE

#### SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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January 21, 2014

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

Bruce H. Roesler, Esq.
Oak Hill Professional Center-Suite 3
445 N. Woodbury-Glassboro Road
P.O. Box 156
Pitman, New Jersey 08071

Re: In the Matter of Bruce H. Roesler

Docket No. DRB 13-313
District Docket No. XIV-2012-0596E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Roesler:

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, you maintained your attorney trust, attorney business, and personal accounts at the same bank. On May 16, 2012, you mistakenly transferred \$1,500 from your trust account to your business account, causing an invasion of \$686 in client funds. When trying to rectify that error, you inadvertently transferred the funds not to the intended trust account, but to an account for your personal mortgage loan. You did not need to use those funds for that purpose, as your business account held over \$10,000 of your own funds, representing fees in a matter. Those funds could have

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been used to pay the mortgage, had it been your intention to do so. You stipulated that your actions amounted to negligent misappropriation, a violation of  $\underline{RPC}$  1.15(a).

After the overdraft, the Office of Attorney Ethics conducted an audit of your attorney accounts, which revealed several recordkeeping deficiencies. Although your poor recordkeeping did not cause the negligent misappropriation, it was not detected because of your failure to reconcile your accounts. You stipulated that your failure to do so violated  $\underline{RPC}$  1.15(d) and  $\underline{R.}$  1:21-6.

In mitigation, the Board considered that you have been a member of the New Jersey bar for over thirty-six years without prior incident; that your error was clearly the product of mistake or inadvertence, the result of having selected the wrong account when performing electronic-banking transactions (compounded by poor recordkeeping); and that you readily admitted your mistake by consenting to 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.

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Very truly yours,

Isabel Frank

Acting Chief Counsel

## IF/sj

C: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Associate Justices
Bonnie C. Frost, Chair
Disciplinary Review Board (via email)
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
Jason D. Saunders, Deputy Ethics Counsel,
Office of Attorney Ethics