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May 21, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL, R.R.R. & REGULAR MAIL

Osualdo Gonzalez, Esq.
2000 Bergenline Avenue
Union City, NJ 07087

RE: In the Matter of Osualdo Gonzalez
Docket No. DRB 14-042
District Docket Nos. VI-2010-0014E and
VI-2012-0018E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

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

Specifically, in 2009, Emad Baskharon's prior lawyer referred Baskharon's personal injury case to you for representation. Despite your duty to keep your client adequately informed about the status of the matter, you did not communicate with him at all but, rather, only with his prior counsel. Your conduct was unethical and a violation of RPC 1.4(b).

Also, at some point, you caused Baskharon's complaint to be withdrawn, based not on a request from your client, but on a statement from his prior lawyer that the client no longer wished to pursue the claim. Your conduct in this regard violated RPC 1.2(a).

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In addition, you failed to communicate to the client, in writing, the basis or rate of the fee, a violation of RPC 1.5(b). Although you claimed that you did not expect to be financially compensated for your legal services, such a writing serves as the document setting forth and informing the client about the scope of the representation.

For lack of clear and convincing evidence, the Board dismissed the balance of the allegations in the Baskharon matter, as well as the entire complaint in the Gary Marchesi matter.

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you have a pristine record in twenty-seven years at the bar and that, therefore, your conduct was aberrational. It also considered the several letters submitted on your behalf that attested to your good moral character.

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).

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 cost of the disciplinary proceedings be assessed against you. An invoice of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,



Ellen A. Brodsky
Chief Counsel

EAB/lg

c: See attached list

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Disciplinary Review Board

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Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ethics history)

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District VI Ethics Committee

Emad Baskharon, Grievant

Gary Marchesi, Grievant