

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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COLIN T. TAMS
KATHRYN ANNE WINTERLE
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

March 7, 2011

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

Steven J. Plofsky
c/o Michael Noriega, Esq.
Noriega & Associates
45 Academy Street, Suite 409
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Re: **In the Matter of Steven J. Plofsky**
Docket No. DRB 10-384
District Docket Nos. VB-09-009E, VB-09-010E, VB-09-011E,
VB-09-012E, VB-09-013E, VB-09-030E and VB-09-031E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Counsel:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above matters and has concluded that it was improper. Following a review of the record, the Board's majority determined to impose a strong admonition. Three members would have imposed a reprimand.

Specifically, in May 2007, Renee Freiling and her son retained you to represent him in a matter before the Division of Youth and Family Services. During the course of your representation, you failed to adequately communicate with your client. Similarly, during your representation of Krikor Mikaelian in a personal injury matter, you failed to adequately

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personal injury matter, you failed to adequately communicate with him. Your conduct violated RPC 1.4(b) in these two matters.

In addition, you failed to cooperate with disciplinary authorities in their investigation of the grievances filed by those two clients, as well as four others: Saudah Sabuur, Rhonda Barnes, Boa Osei, and Gail Levine. Your conduct violated RPC 8.1(b).


In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you have no history of discipline since your admission to the bar in 1989.

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,

By 
Julianne K. DeCore
Chief Counsel

JKD/paa

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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
Brian Gerstein, Chair, District VB Ethics Committee
Seth Ptasiwicz, Secretary, District VB Ethics Committee
Rhonda T. Barnes, Grievant
William L. Campbell, Jr., Grievant
Renee Freiling, Grievant
Gail Levine, Grievant
Krikor O. Mikaelian, Grievant
Boa A. Osei, Grievant
Saudah Sabuur, Grievant