DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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February 3, 2015

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

Martin A. Gleason, Esq. 114 East Union Avenue Bound Brook, New Jersey 08805

Re: <u>In the Matter of Martin A. Gleason</u>

Docket No. DRB 14-139
District Docket No. XIII-2013-0002E

LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Gleason:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed your conduct in the above-captioned matter and has concluded that it was improper. Following a review of the record, and with the approval of the Supreme Court, the Board determined to impose an admonition.

Specifically, in your reply to the grievance filed in this matter by your former client, Daniel Stein, you admitted that, on two separate dates in 2008 and 2010, you failed to inform Mr. Stein that his land use application had been deemed deficient and dismissed by the Bound Brook Planning Board. Mr. Stein did not learn about these dismissals until he retained new counsel to pursue this application on his behalf. Your conduct was unethical and a violation of RPC 1.4(b).

Additionally, you failed to cooperate with the District XIII Ethics Committee (DEC). You did not file an answer to the complaint and ignored the DEC investigator's multiple attempts to obtain a copy of Mr. Stein's file. Your conduct was unethical and a violation of RPC 8.1(b).

I/M/O Martin A. Gleason, DRB 14-139
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In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered, in mitigation, your acceptance of full responsibility for the dismissal of your client's applications, the fact that you refunded your entire legal fee to Mr. Stein, and that you erroneously believed that your reply to the grievance and a subsequent letter to the DEC secretary admitting the allegations of the complaint satisfied your obligation to file a formal answer.

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. \underline{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. R. 1:20-17. An invoice of costs will be forwarded under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Ellen A. Brodsky Chief Counsel

c: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner Associate Justices Bonnie Frost, Chair (via email) 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 (via email)

Office of Attorney Ethics

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District XIII Ethics Committee

Donna P. Legband, Secretary

District XIII Ethics Committee

Daniel Stein, Grievant