

DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

BONNIE C. FROST, ESQ., CHAIR
EDNA Y. BAUGH, ESQ., VICE-CHAIR
BRUCE W. CLARK, ESQ.
HON. MAURICE J. GALLIOLI
THOMAS J. HOBERMAN
EILEEN RIVERA
ANNE C. SINGER, ESQ.
ROBERT C. ZMIRICH



RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX
P.O. BOX 962
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0962
(609) 292-1011

ELLEN A. BRODSKY
CHIEF COUNSEL

PAULA T. GRANUZZO
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL

MELISSA URBAN
FIRST ASSISTANT COUNSEL

TIMOTHY M. ELLIS

LILLIAN LEWIN

BARRY R. PETERSEN, JR.

COLIN T. TAMS

KATHRYN ANNE WINTERLE
ASSISTANT COUNSEL

October 20, 2015

VIA CERTIFIED, R.R.R. AND REGULAR MAIL

Michael C. Dawson, Esq.
Dawson Law Group
2 King Arthur Court, Suite 6
North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902

Re: In the Matter of Michael C. Dawson
Docket No. DRB 15-242
District Docket No. IIIIB-2014-0010E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Dawson:

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 has determined to impose an admonition.

Specifically, between January and July 2014, you failed to reply to repeated requests for information from the District Ethics Committee investigator regarding your representation of James Baker in three criminal defense matters. Your failure to reply to four telephonic and four letter requests for information about the Baker matters constituted failure to cooperate with an ethics investigation, a violation of RPC 8.1(b).

The Board dismissed the remaining charges (RPC 1.5(b) and RPC 1.16(d)) for lack of clear and convincing evidence.

October 20, 2015

Page 2 of 2


In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you have had no prior final discipline since your 2000 admission to the New Jersey bar.

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,


Ellen A. Brodsky
Chief Counsel

EAB/paa

- c. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Associate Justices
Bonnie C. Frost, Chair (via e-mail)
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 e-mail)
Office of Attorney Ethics
James J. Morley, J.S.C. (retired), Chair
District IIIB Ethics Committee
Cynthia S. Earl, Secretary
District IIIB Ethics Committee
James Baker, Grievant