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June 3, 2003

Certified Mail - R.R.R. and Regular Mail

Robert L. Mulligan

REDACTED - CONFIDENTIAL

Re: In the Matter of Robert L. Mulligan
Docket No. DRB 03-040
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the recommendation for an admonition filed by the District Ethics Committee. Following a review of the record, supplemented by oral argument, the Board concluded that your conduct was improper and determined to impose an admonition. Specifically, in or about December 1995, you held financial and corporate interests in a company, Roma, Inc., that you founded for your son. You then requested a longtime friend and client, Frances Lang, to participate in Roma's venture to produce and sell a film based on your son's screenplay. You were Roma's sole officer and president.

You twice drafted loan documents on behalf of Roma and sent them to Lang on your attorney letterhead. You did not disclose to Lang your relationship to Roma and did not make it clear to her that you did not intend to act as her attorney. Given that you had represented her in several matters before, it was reasonable for her to believe that, in these transactions, too, you were representing her interests. Under these circumstances, you had a duty to observe the safeguards contemplated by the conflict-of-interest rules. Your conduct was unethical and in violation of RPC 1.7(a) and RPC 1.8(a).

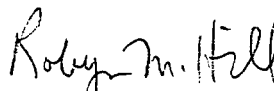
In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered that you had an unblemished twenty-seven year career before this incident.

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

Very truly yours,


Robyn M. Hill

/sw

c. Chief Justice Deborah T. Poritz
Associate Justices
Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk, Supreme Court of New Jersey
Mary J. Maudsley, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics
Stephen H. Roth, Chair, District IIB Ethics Committee
Morton R. Covitz, Secretary, District IIB Ethics Committee
William F. McEnroe, Esq., Respondent's Counsel
Frances M. Lang, Grievant