

# DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

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SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

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May 27, 2003

Stephen W. Townsend, Clerk  
Supreme Court of New Jersey  
PO Box 970  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: In the Matter of William E. Schetlick  
Docket No. DRB 03-078

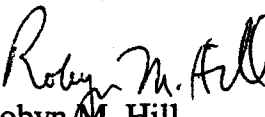
Dear Mr. Townsend:

The Disciplinary Review Board reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (reprimand) filed by the Office of Attorney Ethics in the above matter. Following a review of the record, the Board unanimously determined to grant the motion and to impose a reprimand for respondent's violations of RPC 1.1(a) (gross neglect), RPC 1.1(b) (pattern of neglect), RPC 1.3 (lack of diligence), RPC 1.4(a) (failure to communicate with the client), RPC 1.5 (b) (failure to utilize retainer agreements) and RPC 1.15(d) and R. 1:21-6 (attorney recordkeeping requirements). *See, e.g., In re Jodha*, 174 N.J. 407 (2002) (reprimand for gross neglect in a botched real estate transaction; the attorney took two years to correct the deficiencies; in the course of the OAE investigation, numerous recordkeeping violations were also discovered); and *In re Cheek*, 162 N.J. 98 (1999) (reprimand for gross neglect and failure to communicate with the client in an estate matter; uncorrected recordkeeping violations, for which the attorney had previously been disciplined, were also discovered).

Specifically, between 1998 and 1999, in three separate client matters, respondent neglected a will contest, a post-judgment divorce matter and an eviction proceeding, also failing to communicate with the clients during the representations. In addition, respondent failed to utilize retainer agreements, improperly cashed retainer checks instead of depositing them to either his trust or business account and failed to maintain client ledger cards for some matters.

Enclosed is the notice of motion for discipline by consent, stipulation of discipline by consent, with exhibits, and affidavit of consent.

Very truly yours,

  
Robyn M. Hill

RMH:CT:sw

Enclosures

c: Mary E. Maudsley, Chair, Disciplinary Review Board (w/o enclosures)  
David E. Johnson, Jr., Director, Office of Attorney Ethics (w/o enclosures)  
William E. Schetlick (w/o enclosures)