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April 24, 2018

E-MAIL & REGULAR MAIL

Joel I. Rachmiel
c/o Raymond S. Londa, Esq.
277 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208
Lynmall@aol.com

Re: In the Matter of Joel I. Rachmiel
Docket No. DRB 18-064
District Docket No. XII-2016-0033E
LETTER OF ADMONITION

Dear Mr. Rachmiel:

The Disciplinary Review Board has reviewed the motion for discipline by consent (admonition) filed by the District XII Ethics Committee in the above-captioned matter, pursuant to R. 1:20-10. Following a review of the record, the Board concluded that your conduct was improper and, thus, determined to grant the motion and to impose an admonition.

Specifically, Stephanie R. High retained you to represent her in a personal injury matter. In July 2011, her matter settled for \$75,000. At that time, you disbursed \$25,306 to yourself for fees and costs, distributed \$34,644 to Ms. High as the settlement proceeds, and held \$13,345 in escrow, pending the resolution of medical liens. Thereafter, you delayed paying the medical liens for almost six years. During this time period, Ms. High questioned you about the status of her medical payments and you failed to respond to her. Your delay caused the medical obligations to be placed in collections, which affected Ms. High's credit rating. Your conduct was unethical in violation of RPC 1.1(a), RPC 1.3, and RPC 1.4(b) and (c).

April 24, 2018

Page 2 of 2

In imposing only an admonition, the Board considered your previous unblemished disciplinary record and the nature of this isolated incident.

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 also has 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
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Supreme Court of New Jersey
Gail G. Haney, Deputy Clerk
Supreme Court of New Jersey (w/ethics history)
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Stephanie R. High, Grievant (regular mail)