

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-93 September Term 2019
084014

In the Matter of

Robert Michael Dennerlein, III,

An Attorney At Law

(Attorney No. 172962015)

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FILED **ORDER**

MAY - 6 2020

Heather J. Baker
CLERK

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 19-278, concluding that as a matter of final discipline pursuant to Rule 1:20-13 (c), **Robert Michael Dennerlein, III**, of **Wayne**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 2015, and who has been temporarily suspended from the practice of law since October 4, 2018, pursuant to Rule 1:20-13(b)(1)(automatic temporary suspension), should be suspended from the practice of law for a period of six months based on respondent's criminal convictions in Superior Court, Hudson County of possession of a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) with intent to distribute (cocaine), a second-degree offense, contrary to N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5(a)(1), and wandering to obtain CDS (heroin), a disorderly persons offense, contrary to N.J.S.A. 2C:33-2.1, conduct in violation of RPC 8.4(b) (commission of a criminal act that reflects adversely on a lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects);

And the Disciplinary Review Board having determined that the period of suspension should be retroactive to the date of respondent's temporary suspension from practice;

And the Disciplinary Review Board having further determined that for

the remainder of respondent's probationary sentence, respondent should be required to (1) provide the Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) with quarterly proof of weekly attendance of a drug/alcohol treatment program, and (2) inform the OAE immediately if random drug tests taken during probation yield a positive result for the presence of drugs, and that as a condition precedent to reinstatement, respondent be required to provide proof of fitness to practice law as attested to by a substance abuse counselor approved by the OAE;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Robert Michael Dennerlein, III**, is suspended from the practice of law for a period of six months and until the further Order of the Court, effective October 4, 2018; and it is further

ORDERED that for the remainder of respondent's probationary sentence, respondent shall (1) provide the Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) with quarterly proof of weekly attendance of a drug/alcohol treatment program, and (2) inform the OAE immediately if random drug tests taken during probation yield a positive result for the presence of drugs; and it is further

ORDERED that prior to reinstatement to practice, respondent shall provide proof of fitness to practice law as attested to by a substance abuse counselor approved by the OAE; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent comply with Rule 1:20-20 dealing with suspended attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to Rule 1:20-20(c), respondent's failure to comply with the Affidavit of Compliance requirement of Rule 1:20-20(b)(15) may (1) preclude the Disciplinary Review Board from considering respondent's petition for reinstatement for a period of up to six months from the date respondent files proof of compliance; (2) be found to constitute a violation of RPC 8.1(b) and RPC 8.4(d); and (3) provide a basis for an action for contempt

pursuant to Rule 1:10-2; and it is further

ORDERED that the entire record of this matter be made a permanent part of respondent's file as an attorney at law of this State; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent reimburse the Disciplinary Oversight Committee for appropriate administrative costs and actual expenses incurred in the prosecution of this matter, as provided in Rule 1:20-17.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 5th day of May, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J. Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "B".

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT