

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
D-81 September Term 2019  
083920

In the Matter of :  
William J. Munier, :  
An Attorney At Law : **FILED** ORDER  
(Attorney No. 015501991) : **MAY 20 2020**  
: *Heather J. Sales*  
: CLERK

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 19-207, concluding on the record certified to the Board pursuant to Rule 1:20-14(f)(default by respondent) that **William J. Munier** of **Fort Lee**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1991, should be suspended from the practice of law for one year for violating RPC 1.1(a)(gross neglect), RPC 1.1(b)(pattern of neglect); RPC 1.4(b)(failure to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and to promptly comply with reasonable requests for information), RPC 1.4(c)(failure to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions regarding the representation), RPC 1.5 (a)(unreasonable fee), RPC 1.5(e)(impermissible fee sharing), RPC 1.15(a)(failure to safeguard funds), RPC 1.16(a)(1)(failure to withdraw from the representation if the representation with result in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law), RPC 1.16(d)(failure to protect

a client's interests upon termination of representation), RPC 5.3(a)(failure to supervise nonlawyer employees), RPC 5.4(a)(fee sharing with nonlawyer), RPC 5.4(b)(prohibited partnership with nonlawyer), RPC 5.5(a)(1)(unauthorized practice of law), RPC 5.5(a)(2)(assisting another in the unauthorized practice of law), RPC 7.3(d)(a lawyer shall not compensate or give anything or value to a person or organization to recommend or secure the lawyer's employment by a client, or as a reward for having made a recommendation resulting in the lawyer's employment by a client), RPC 8.4(b)(commission of a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects), and RPC 8.4(c)(conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation);

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **William J. Munier** is suspended from the practice of law for a period of one year and until the further Order of the Court, effective June 22, 2020; 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather J. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "B".

**CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT**