

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
D-11 September Term 2021  
086271

In the Matter of

Royce W. Smith,

An Attorney At Law

(Attorney No. 05322004)

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: **FILED**            O R D E R

: **MAY 23 2022**

  
CLERK

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 21-061, concluding that **Royce W. Smith** of **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 2004, and who has been temporarily suspended from practice by consent since February 4, 2021, should be censured for violating RPC 1.5 (unreasonable fee), RPC 1.15 (a) (negligent misappropriation of client funds), RPC 1.15 (d) (failure to comply with recordkeeping provisions of Rule 1:21-6) and Rule 1:21-6 (recordkeeping requirements);

And the Disciplinary Review Board having determined that respondent should be required to comply with certain conditions prior to and following his reinstatement to practice;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Royce W. Smith** is hereby censured; and it is further ORDERED that respondent continue to 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 respondent shall complete two courses in attorney recordkeeping approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics and shall provide proof of his successful completion thereof within ninety days after he is reinstated to practice; and it is further

ORDERED that following his reinstatement to the practice of law, respondent shall submit monthly reconciliations of his attorney accounts to the Office of Attorney Ethics on a quarterly basis, for a period of two years, and until the further Order of the Court; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall comply with all outstanding requests of the Office of Attorney Ethics for financial records; and it is further

ORDERED that within sixty days after the filing date of this Order, respondent shall refund to the client in the Frazier matter the retained fees, expenses, and settlement funds totaling \$10,095.08, or provide documentary proof to the Office of Attorney Ethics that he has already done so; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall deliver any unidentified client trust funds to the Clerk of the Superior Court for deposit into the Superior Court Trust Fund within sixty days after the filing date of this Order; 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  
17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.

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

**CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT**