

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-28 September Term 2021

086374

In the Matter of

Joseph J. Ashton, III,

An Attorney At Law

(Attorney No. 013472010)

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FILED
MAY 27 2022
Heather J. Suter
CLERK

ORDER

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 21-031, concluding that as a matter of reciprocal discipline pursuant to Rule 1:20-14(a)(4), **Joseph J. Ashton, III**, of **Marlton**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 2010, should be suspended from the practice of law for a period of two years based on discipline imposed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for unethical conduct that in New Jersey constitutes violations of RPC 1.1(a)(gross neglect), RPC 1.3(lack of diligence), RPC 1.4(b)(failure to communicate with client), RPC 1.4(c)(failure to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions), RPC 1.16(d)(failure to protect client's interests on termination of the representation), and RPC 3.2(failure to expedite litigation);

And the Disciplinary Review Board having further determined that respondent should be prohibited from being admitted to practice pro hac vice before any New Jersey court or tribunal until further Order of the Court;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Joseph J. Ashton, III**, is suspended from the practice of law for a period of two years and until the further Order of the Court, effective immediately; 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 17th day of May, 2022.



Filed: 05/27/2022

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT