

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-20 September Term 2022
087665

In the Matter of

Michael A. Rowek,

An Attorney At Law

(Attorney No. 008881987)

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O R D E R

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 22-103, concluding that as a matter of final discipline pursuant to Rule 1: 20-13 (c)(2) , **Michael A. Rowek** of **Totowa**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1987, should be suspended from the practice of law for a period of two years following respondent’s guilty plea and convictions in the Superior Court of New Jersey, to two counts of third-degree possession of a controlled dangerous substance (CDS), in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-10(a)(1), conduct in violation of RPC 8.4(b)(commission of a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer’s honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer);

And the Disciplinary Review Board having determined to impose conditions on respondent : (1) respondent shall immediately notify the Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) of any positive drug test results; (2) prior to reinstatement, respondent shall provide (i) proof of fitness to practice law, as attested to by a medical doctor approved by the OAE, and (ii) proof of continuous attendance at a substance use disorder treatment program following the termination, or the successful completion, of his probation; and (3) on reinstatement to practice, respondent shall provide the OAE with quarterly

reports of his weekly attendance at a substance use disorder treatment program, for a period of two years;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Michael A. Rowek** is suspended from the practice of law for a period of two years, effective March 3, 2023, and until the further Order of the Court, and it is further

ORDERED that **Michael A. Rowek** shall immediately notify the Office of Attorney Ethics of any positive drug test results; 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 medical doctor approved by the OAE, and proof of continuous participation in a substance use disorder treatment program following the termination, or the successful completion, of his probation; and it is further

ORDERED that following reinstatement to practice, respondent shall provide the OAE with quarterly reports of his weekly participation in a substance use disorder treatment program, for a period of two years, and until the further Order of the Court; 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 7th day of February, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "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