

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-67 September Term 2022
088157

In the Matter of :
Walter K. Abrams :
An Attorney at Law :
(Attorney No. 022791975) :

FILED ORDER

JUL 11 2023


CLERK

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 22-198, concluding on the records certified to the Board pursuant to Rule 1:20-4(f) (default by respondent) that **Walter K. Abrams** of **South Plainfield**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1975, should be censured for violating RPC 1.1(a) (exhibiting gross neglect), RPC 1.1(b) (exhibiting a pattern of neglect), RPC 1.3 (exhibiting a lack of diligence), RPC 1.4(b) (failing to communicate with a client), RPC 1.4(c) (failing to explain a matter to a client to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions about the representation), RPC 1.15(b) (failing to promptly deliver funds to the client or a third party), RPC 1.15(d) (failing to comply with the recordkeeping requirements of Rule 1:21-6), RPC 1.16(d) (failing to protect the client's interests upon termination of the representation), and RPC 8.1(b) (two instances – failing to cooperate with disciplinary authorities);

And the Disciplinary Review Board having further determined that

respondent should submit to the Office of Attorney Ethics (1) proof of a completed recordkeeping course pre-approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics within sixty days of this order, (2) open and maintain an attorney trust account (ATA), pursuant to Rule 1:21-6(a), (3) monthly reconciliations of his attorney accounts, on a quarterly basis, for a two-year period, and (4) documentary proof of the release of all unclaimed trust account funds to their intended beneficiaries, or to the Superior Court Trust Fund Unit, as Rule 1:21-6(j) requires, within sixty days of this order;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Walter K. Abrams** is hereby censured; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall submit to the Office of Attorney Ethics (1) proof of a completed recordkeeping course pre-approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics within sixty days of this order, (2) open and maintain an ATA, pursuant to Rule 1:21-6(a), (3) monthly reconciliations of his attorney accounts, on a quarterly basis, for a two-year period and (4) documentary proof of the release of all unclaimed trust account funds to their intended beneficiaries, or to the Superior Court Trust Fund Unit, as Rule 1:21-6(j) requires, within sixty days 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 6th day of July, 2023.



CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT