SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY D-95 September Term 2023 089376

In the Matter of	:
Patrick Michael Megaro	:
An Attorney at Law	:
(Attorney No. 036342002)	:

ORDER

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 23-254, recommending as a matter of reciprocal discipline pursuant to Rule 1:20-14(a) that Patrick Michael Megaro of Winter Park, Florida, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 2004, should be disbarred based on discipline imposed by the Disciplinary Hearing Commission of the North Carolina State Bar for unethical conduct that in New Jersey constitutes violations of RPC 1.1(a) (engaging in gross neglect), RPC 1.3 (lacking diligence), RPC 1.5(a) (charging an unreasonable fee) (two instances), RPC 1.7(a)(2) (engaging in a concurrent conflict of interest), RPC 1.8(e) (providing financial assistance to a client in connection with pending or contemplated litigation), RPC 1.15(a) (commingling of funds), RPC 3.3(a)(1) (making a false statement of material fact to a tribunal), RPC 8.4(c) (engaging in conduct involving dishonestly, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation) (four instances), and RPC 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice); and

Respondent having been ordered to show cause why respondent should not be disbarred or otherwise disciplined; and

The Court having determined that a five-year suspension from the practice of law is the appropriate quantum of discipline for respondent's unethical conduct;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Patrick Michael Megaro** is suspended from the practice of law for a period of five years, and until further order of the Court, effective February 12, 2025; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent comply with <u>Rule</u> 1:20-20 dealing with suspended attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 1:20-20(c), respondent's failure to comply with the Affidavit of Compliance requirement of <u>Rule</u> 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 <u>Rule</u> 1:10-2; and it is further

ORDERED that the entire record of this matter be made a permanent part

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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 <u>Rule</u> 1:20-17.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 6th day of January, 2025

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CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT