

**SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-117 September Term 2023
089610**

In the Matter of :
Neal E. Brunson :
An Attorney At Law :
(Attorney No. 044231987) :

O R D E R

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 24-009, recommending on the record certified to the Board pursuant to Rule 1:20-4(f) (default by respondent), that **Neal E. Brunson**, formerly of **Rutherford**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1988, and who has been suspended from the practice of law since July 22, 2021, be disbarred for violating RPC 1.15(a) and the principles of In re Wilson, 81 N.J. 451 (1979) and In re Hollendonner, 102 N.J. 21 (1985) (engaging in knowing misappropriation of entrusted funds), RPC 1.4(b) (failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter and to comply with reasonable requests for information) (two instances), 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 1.15(d) (failing to

comply with the recordkeeping requirements of Rule 1:21-6), RPC 1.16(a)(1) (undertaking or failing to withdraw from a representation if it will result in a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law), RPC 5.5(a)(1) (engaging in the unauthorized practice of law), RPC 8.1(b) (failing to cooperate with disciplinary authorities) (three instances), RPC 8.4(b) (engaging in a criminal act that reflects adversely on the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer), and RPC 8.4(c) (engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation) (three instances); and

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

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Neal E. Brunson** is hereby disbarred, effective immediately, and that respondent's name be stricken from the roll of attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that **Neal E. Brunson** be and hereby is restrained and enjoined from practicing law; and it is further

ORDERED that **Neal E. Brunson** comply with Rule 1:20-20 dealing with disbarred attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that all funds, if any, currently existing or hereinafter

deposited in any New Jersey financial institution maintained by **Neal E.**

Brunson pursuant to Rule 1:21-6 be restrained from disbursement and shall be transferred by the financial institution to the Clerk of the Superior Court, who is directed to deposit the funds in the Superior Court Trust Fund pending further order of the Court; 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 8th day of April, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J. Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heather" and last name "Baker" clearly distinguishable.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT