D-131 September Term 2024 090877

In the Matter of :

Hikmat Abboud Sabeh :

ORDER

An Attorney at Law :

(Attorney No. 158852015) :

The Disciplinary Review Board, in DRB 25-087, having granted a motion for discipline by consent, pursuant to Rule 1:20-10(b), of **Hikmat Abboud Sabeh** of **Montclair**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 2015; and

The District VC Ethics Committee and respondent having signed a stipulation of discipline by consent in which the parties agreed that respondent violated RPC 1.1(a) (engaging in gross neglect), RPC 1.2(a) (failing to abide by the client's decisions concerning the scope and objectives of representation), RPC 1.3 (lacking diligence), RPC 1.4(b) (failing to communicate with a client), RPC 1.4(c) (failing to explain a matter to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the client to make informed decisions about the representation), RPC 1.5(b) (failing to set forth, in writing, the basis

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or rate of the legal fee), RPC 1.5(c) (failing to memorialize a contingent fee in writing and failing to provide a written accounting of how a retainer was applied), RPC 3.2 (failing to expedite litigation), RPC 8.4(c) (engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation), and RPC 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice), and that respondent's conduct warrants a censure or such lesser discipline as the Disciplinary Review Board deems appropriate; and

The Disciplinary Review Board having determined: that respondent violated RPC 1.1(a), RPC 1.3, RPC 1.4(b), RPC 1.4(c), RPC 1.5(b), RPC 1.5(c), RPC 3.2, RPC 8.4(c), and RPC 8.4(d); to dismiss the charges that respondent violated RPC 1.2(a), one alleged violation of RPC 3.2, and one alleged violation of RPC 8.4(d); and that a censure is the appropriate discipline for respondent's unethical conduct; and

The Disciplinary Review Board having submitted the record of the proceedings to the Clerk of the Supreme Court for the entry of an order of discipline in accordance with <u>Rule</u> 1:20-16(e);

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Hikmat Abboud Sabeh** is hereby censured; 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 <u>Rule</u> 1:20-17.

WITNESS, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 11th day of September, 2025.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

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