

**SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-75 September Term 2025
091827**

In the Matter of :
Frances Ann Hartman :
An Attorney at Law :
(Attorney No. 026511984) :

O R D E R

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 25-226 and DRB 25-227, recommending on the records certified to the Board pursuant to Rule 1:20-4(f) (default by respondent) that **Frances Ann Hartman**, formerly of **Moorestown**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1984, and who has been suspended from the practice of law since July 2, 2024, should be suspended for three years for violating RPC 1.1(b) (engaging in a pattern of neglect), RPC 1.3 (lacking diligence) (two instances), RPC 1.4(b) (failing to keep a client reasonably informed about the status of a matter) (three instances), RPC 1.16(d) (failing to protect the client’s interest upon termination of the representation) (three instances), RPC 5.5(a) (1) (engaging in the unauthorized practice of law), RPC 8.1(b) (failing to cooperate with disciplinary authorities) (seven instances), and RPC 8.4(d) (engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice) (two instances); and

The Disciplinary Review Board having further recommended that prior to reinstatement respondent be required to provide the Office of Attorney Ethics with proof of fitness to practice law, as attested to by a medical doctor approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Frances Ann Hartman** is hereby suspended from the practice of law for three years, and until further order of the Court, effective immediately; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall provide to the Office of Attorney Ethics proof of respondent's fitness to practice law, as attested to by a medical doctor approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics, prior to reinstatement; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall remain suspended from the practice of law pursuant to the orders filed on July 2, 2024, March 27, 2025 and January 15, 2026; 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 5th day of May, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather J. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT