SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY
D-118 September Term 2025
092247

In the Matter of :

Michael A. Rowek :

An Attorney at Law :

(Attorney No. 008881987) :

O R D E R

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed with the Court its decision in DRB 26-008, recommending as a matter of final discipline pursuant to Rule 1:20-13(c)(2) that **Michael A. Rowek**, formerly of **Totowa**, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1987, should be suspended for an indeterminate period, following respondent's guilty plea and conviction in the Superior Court of New Jersey for third-degree defrauding the administration of a drug test, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:36-10(d), and for violating RPC 8.4(b) (committing a criminal act that reflects adversely on a lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer); and

The Disciplinary Review Board having further recommended that (1) consistent with the recent amendment to Rule 1:20-15A(a)(2), respondent be prohibited from applying for reinstatement for a minimum of four years, and (2) prior to reinstatement, respondent be required to demonstrate successful

completion of Recovery Court probation; and

The Disciplinary Review Board having further recommended that respondent be required to comply with the Court's order in In re Rowek, 253 N.J. 1 (2023), including that respondent (1) immediately notify the Office of Attorney Ethics of any positive drug test results; (2) prior to reinstatement, (i) submit proof of fitness to practice law, as attested to by a medical doctor approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics, and (ii) demonstrate continuous attendance at a substance use disorder treatment program following the termination, or the successful completion, of respondent's Recovery Court probation; and (3) upon reinstatement, provide the Office of Attorney Ethics with quarterly reports of respondent's weekly attendance at a substance use disorder treatment program, for two years;

And good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that **Michael A. Rowek** is hereby suspended from the practice of law for an indeterminate period pursuant to Rule 1:20-15A(a)(2), effective immediately, and until further order of the Court; and it is further

ORDERED that, pursuant to Rule 1:20-15A(a)(2), respondent shall not petition for reinstatement to practice for a period of four years following the effective date of the indeterminate suspension; and it is further

ORDERED that respondent shall continue participating in Recovery Court and immediately notify the Office of Attorney Ethics of any positive drug test results; and it is further

ORDERED that, prior to reinstatement to practice, respondent shall (1) provide proof of fitness to practice law, as attested to by a medical doctor approved by the Office of Attorney Ethics, and (2) provide proof of continuous participation in a substance use disorder treatment program following the termination, or the successful completion, of respondent's Recovery Court probation; and it is further

ORDERED that upon reinstatement to practice, respondent shall provide to the Office of Attorney Ethics, on a quarterly basis, reports of respondent's weekly participation in a substance use disorder treatment program, for two years, and until further order of the Court; 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 Attorney Regulatory 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 13th day of October, 2026.



CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT