NOTICE TO THE BAR

Re: Defaults Scheduled for Review by the Disciplinary Review Board

The following matters have been certified to the Disciplinary Review Board as defaults, in accordance with R. 1:20-4(f):

In the Matter of Michael David Halbfish Docket No. DRB 14-146
District Docket Nos. VIII-2013-0042E;
VIII-2013-0043E and VIII-2013-0045E

In the Matters of Arnold M. Abramowitz Docket No. DRB 14-150 District Docket Nos. VB-2013-0008E and VB-2013-0009E

In the Matter of Adam S. Pribula
Docket No. DRB 14-153
District Docket Nos. XA-2013-0019E
and XA-2013-0021E

In the Matter of Adam Kenneth Block Docket No. DRB 14-159 District Docket No. XII-2013-0040E

In the Matter of John F. Hamill, Jr. Docket No. DRB 14-179
District Docket No. VI-2014-0006E

In the Matter of John F. Hamill, Jr. Docket No. DRB 14-199
District Docket Nos. XIV-2013-0062E and XIV-2013-0117E

In the Matter of Richard C. Klein Docket No. DRB 14-184 District Docket No. IV-2013-0042E

In the Matter of Arthur E. Swidler Docket No. DRB 14-190 District Docket No. XIV-2013-0073E

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In the Matter of Marc Z. Palfy
Docket No. DRB 14-191
District Docket No. XIV-2013-0322E

In the Matter of Robert M. Vreeland Docket No. DRB 14-195 District Docket No. XIV-2013-0012E

In the Matter of Edward A. MacDuffie, Jr. Docket No. DRB 14-196
District Docket No. XIV-2013-0364E

These matters are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board on Thursday, September 18, 2014. R. 1:20-4(f) provides that an attorney-respondent's failure to timely file an answer "shall be deemed an admission that the allegations of the complaint are true and . . . provide sufficient basis for the imposition of discipline." Although chances for a successful motion are limited, a motion to vacate the default may be filed with the Board by no later than August 18, 2014. MOTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE REVIEWED BY THE BOARD. The motion should specify why the attorney-respondent failed to file a timely answer (including lack of notice) and should set forth any claimed meritorious defenses to the ethics charge. The motion must also be simultaneously served on the Director of the Office of Attorney Ethics and, where appropriate, the district ethics committee responsible for the underlying ethics matter. A certification regarding that service must accompany any documents filed with the Board.

Respondents are hereby advised that, generally, in a default matter, the discipline is enhanced to reflect a respondent's failure to cooperate with disciplinary authorities as an aggravating factor. In re Kivler, 193 N.J. 332, 338 (2008).

Respondents may communicate with the Board by contacting the Office of Board Counsel at:

P.O. Box 962, Trenton, NJ 08625, Telephone: 609-292-1012

Dated: 8/11/14

Ellen A. Brodsky Chief Counsel Disciplinary Review Board