

NOTICE TO THE BAR

Re: Additional Default Scheduled for Review by the Disciplinary Review Board

The following matter has been certified to the Disciplinary Review Board as a default, in accordance with R. 1:20-4(f):

In the Matter of Michael R. Shapiro

Docket No. DRB 21-127

District Docket No. XIV-2020-0372E

The Board has determined to adjourn this matter from September 23, 2021 to **Thursday, October 21, 2021** and is therefore submitting this second Notice to the Bar. This Notice supersedes the Notice to the Bar previously issued on July 22, 2021 **with regard to this matter only.**

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 **September 22, 2021**. 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: 609-815-2920, E-Mail: DRB.MBX@njcourts.gov.



Dated: September 9, 2021

Johanna Barba Jones
Chief Counsel
Disciplinary Review Board