

## **NOTICE TO THE BAR**

### **ADDITIONAL DEFAULTS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW BY THE DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

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

**In the Matter Nabil Nadim Kassem**

Docket No. DRB 22-231

District Docket No. XIV-2022-0020E

**In the Matter of Stuart Thomas Cottee**

Docket No. DRB 22-232

District Docket No. XIV-2021-0338E

These matters are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board on **Thursday, February 16, 2023**. These matters have been added to the matters already listed in the Board's notice of December 19, 2022, which remains in effect.

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 **January 17, 2023**. **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: December 29, 2022

*/s/ Timothy M. Ellis*

---

Timothy M. Ellis  
Acting Chief Counsel  
Disciplinary Review Board