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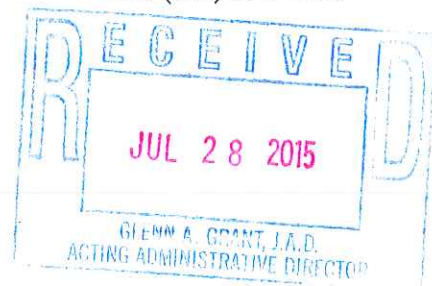
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July 24, 2015

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Comments: Special Committee on Attorney Ethics and Admissions

Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex

P.O. Box 037

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Re: Comment to Committee's Report and Recommendations

Dear Mr. Grant:

Please accept this letter in response to the Court's request for comment on the Special Committee's Report and Recommendations, dated May 12, 2015. As an attorney, I disagree with the committee's recommendation to add a new rule regarding civility and professionalism to RPC 8.4 and RPC 3.2.

To explain, based on the proposed official comment, as written, the rule would only apply if a lawyer's conduct would not affect an "underlying litigation or dispute."¹ Accordingly, I would think that any attempt to enforce discipline under this rule would raise First Amendment concerns. Moreover, I do not believe the resources of our judiciary should be utilized to impose civility for civility's sake. Protecting the public should, in my opinion, be OAE's only concern. To create a civility task force to impose discipline where the public's legal rights are unaffected would be, in my estimation, imprudent.

True, there are attorneys who see themselves as mercenaries and find no fault in preforming the duties owed to their clients without regard to civility. But, unless the disrespectful or discourteous


¹ To be sure, there is no need for a rule regarding statements that would affect an underlying litigation or dispute as the making of such statements would already be disciplinable under RPC 8.4(d).

Comment to Committee's Report and Recommendations
Friday, July 24, 2015

tactics that are sometimes employed by such lawyers rises to a level impactful to our process, I see no need for discipline.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this comment.

Very Truly Yours,



Wolfgang G. Robinson, Esq.