

February 2, 2005

Anthony F. LaVista, Esq.  
DeMeo & LaVista, P.C.  
381 Franklin Avenue, Suite 202  
Belleville, NJ 07109

Dear Mr. LaVista:

IN THE MATTER OF THE REPRIMAND OF ALFONSE A. DE MEO PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A.  
18A:12-29(c), BELLEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION, ESSEX COUNTY, STATE BOARD  
DOCKET #54-04

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On December 13, 2004, you filed a notice of appeal to the State Board of Education in the above-titled matter. On December 22, 2004, you were advised that since you were not the attorney of record in the matter for the respondent Alfonse A. DeMeo, you were required to submit a signed, properly executed substitution of attorney by January 3, 2005 before your appeal could be deemed filed and considered by the State Board. You were further advised that upon receipt of your substitution of attorney, your notice of appeal would be deemed filed on December 13, 2004. You were also required to correct specified deficiencies in your filing by January 3, 2005.

No substitution of attorney was filed by January 3, 2005. Nor were the deficiencies in your filing corrected. In addition, although a brief in support of the appeal was due on January 3, 2005, no brief was filed.

By letter of January 5, 2005, you were advised that under the circumstances, the matter was being referred to the Legal Committee of the State Board for consideration of the effect of your failure to file a substitution of attorney, as well as for consideration of the effect of your failure to correct the other deficiencies. Even after such notice, you did not file a substitution of attorney and did not correct the deficiencies in your filing. Further, you have not filed a brief in support of the appeal. Under these circumstances, the State Board of Education has no choice but to dismiss the matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Arnold G. Hyndman, President  
State Board of Education

Debra Casha, Chairperson  
Legal Committee of the State Board

c: Greg K. Vitali, Esq.