

PLAINTIFF'S BRIEF APPENDIX  
Volume III

Kenneth Frank Irek, *Plaintiff*

v.

New Jersey Lawyers' Fund  
For Client Protection, *Defendant*

and

The Supreme Court of New Jersey, *Defendant*

Appeal Docket No. A-001384-20

Filed June 21, 2021

This page is for information only and is Not part of the attached document(s). It was created by Kenneth F. Irek for clarification and indexing.

A P P E N D I X V O L U M E T H R E E  
(Includes Appendix Pages Pa319 through Pa381)

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KENNETH FRANK IREK,

*Plaintiff-Appellant*

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION,

*Defendant-Respondent*  
and

THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,  
*Defendant-Respondent.*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
APPELLATE DIVISION

DOCKET NO. A-001384-20

CIVIL ACTION

On Appeal from a Final Order  
of the Superior Court of New  
Jersey, Law Division, Mercer  
County, Dismissing the Verified  
Complaint

Docket No. MER -L-2020-20

Sat Below:  
Hon. Douglas H. Hurd, P.J. Cv.

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APPENDIX VOLUME THREE of THREE VOLUMES  
ON BEHALF OF  
PLAINTIFF-APPELLANT KENNETH FRANK IREK

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KENNETH FRANK IREK,  
PLAINTIFF-APPELLANT, Pro Se  
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**TABLE OF APPENDIX**

**VOLUME I**

| <b><u>Appendix document</u></b>                                    | <b><u>Appendix page number</u></b> |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Verified Complaint, filed November 9, 2020                         | Pa1                                |
| Exhibit "A" to Verified Complaint                                  | Pa32                               |
| Attachments to Verified Complaint, "1" through "13"                |                                    |
| "1" Records Requests   | Pa58                               |
| "2" Rule 1:28  | Pa90                               |
| "3" The ABA Model Rules  | Pa97                               |
| "4" Supreme Court of NJ Order D-112                                | Pa121                              |
| "5" Decision and Recommendation of the DRB                         | Pa123                              |
| "6" Letter Dated 5/14/1993 from Roger S. Steffens                  | Pa129                              |
| "7" NJLFCP Release, Assignment and Subrogation                     | Pa132                              |
| "8" Letter Dated 8/14/ 2006 from Ruby D. Cochran                   | Pa136                              |
| "9" Letter Dated 10/6/ 2006 from Ruby D. Cochran                   | Pa141                              |
| "10" Letter Dated 3/30/2015 from Ruby D. Cochran                   | Pa148                              |
| "11" Complaint - Docket No. L-5664-94                              | Pa151                              |
| "12" Letter Dated 10/22/2004 to CA Department of<br>Motor Vehicles | Pa158                              |
| "13" Default Judgment - Docket No. L-5664-94                       | Pa160                              |

**VOLUME II**

| <b><u>Appendix document</u></b>   | <b><u>Appendix page number</u></b> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Attachments to Verified Complaint, "14" through "31"                                |                                    |
| "14" Dennis Poane, Esq. Correspondence  | Pa162                              |
| a) Letter dated 10/14/1990 from Poane to<br>Ronald Troppoli, Dir Special Prosecutor | Pa163                              |
| b) Letter dated 5/23/90 from Fran Donahue   | Pa167                              |
| c) Contract for Sale of Real Estate dated<br>6/6/90                                 | Pa168                              |
| d) Poane's handwritten closing notes  | Pa171                              |
| e) Copy of \$5,000 Szatmary check   | Pa177                              |
| f) Letter dated 6/26/1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa178                              |
| g) Letter dated 7/10,1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa179                              |
| h) Letter dated 7/19/1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa180                              |
| i) Letter dated 7/31/1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa181                              |
| j) Certified Mail Receipt 8/3/90  | Pa182                              |
| k) Letter dated 8/6/1990 to Ken Irek  | Pa183                              |
| l) Certified Mail Receipt 8/6/90  | Pa184                              |
| m) Letter dated 8/13/1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa185                              |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| n) Certified Mail Receipt 8/13/90   | Pa186 |
| o) Certified Mail Receipt 8/13/90 returned  | Pa187 |
| p) Letter dated 8/29/1990 to Ken Irek   | Pa188 |
| q) Certified Mail Receipt 8/29/90   | Pa189 |
| r) Envelope photocopy to Ken Irek returned  | Pa190 |
| s) Letter dated 12/11/1990 to Dennis D. Poane<br>from Ronald J. Troppoli, Dir Special<br>Prosecutor             | Pa191 |
| "15" Zontan and Cathleen Szatmary Attorney<br>Grievance Form  | Pa193 |
| "16" Zontan and Cathleen Szatmary NJLFCP<br>Statement of Claim  | Pa196 |
| "17" Testimony of Cathleen D. Szatmary  | Pa205 |
| "18" Supreme Court of NJ Order That<br>Kenneth F. Irek be Disbarred   | Pa232 |
| "19" NJLFCP Subrogation Agreement   | Pa234 |
| "20" Request for Entry of Default   | Pa238 |
| "21" Letter Dated April 18, 1995 To Kenneth Irek  | Pa243 |
| "22" Letter Dated April 24, 2000, To Kenneth Irek   | Pa259 |
| "23" Legislative History of NJ CEP  | Pa264 |
| "24" Order Extending Time The NJLFCP Is<br>Authorized to Use the CEP  | Pa287 |
| "25" List of Letters to Plaintiff Regarding Use<br>of the CEP   | Pa289 |
| "26" Letter Dated October 3, 2014, to<br>Kenneth F. Irek, Re: Delinquent Payments                               | Pa291 |
| "27" Letter Dated November 5, 2014, Re: Kenneth F.<br>Irek is Summoned to Appear Before a<br>Hearing Officer    | Pa296 |
| "28" Letter Dated January 9, 2015, Re: NJLFCP to<br>Pursue a Bench Warrant for the Arrest of<br>Kenneth F. Irek | Pa300 |
| "29" Letter Dated March 30, 2015, To Kenneth F.<br>Irek, Stating A Bench Warrant was Issued<br>for His Arrest   | Pa305 |
| "30" District IX Ethics Committee Hearing Panel<br>Report Recommending Public Discipline                        | Pa308 |
| "31" Letter Dated October 30, 2020, To Kenneth<br>Irek, Stating He Still Owes NJLFCP \$2,500                    | Pa314 |

**VOLUME III**

**Appendix document**

**Appendix page number**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Plaintiff's Notice of Motion for Injunctive Relief,<br>Temporary Restraints, filed November 27, 2020 | Pa319 |
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|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Plaintiff's Notice of Motion Order, filed<br>November 27, 2020  | Pa324 |
| Defendants' Notice of Cross-Motion to Dismiss<br>Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, filed<br>December 9, 2020  | Pa327 |
| Defendants' Cross-Motion Order, filed December 9, 2020  | Pa329 |
| Defendants' Cross-Motion Brief in Support of Dismissal<br>of Plaintiff's Verified Complaint and in Opposition<br>to Plaintiff's Motion for Injunctive Relief,<br>filed 12/9/2020 (Included in Appendix pursuant to<br><u>R. 2:6-1(a)(2)</u> "brief is referred to in the<br>decision of the court") | Pa331 |
| Plaintiff's Revised Notice of Motion for Injunctive<br>Relief Temporary Restraints and Reply to<br>Defendants' Cross-Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's<br>Verified Complaint, filed December 14, 2020   | Pa362 |
| Plaintiff's Revised Notice of Motion Order, filed<br>December 14, 2020  | Pa364 |
| Defendants' request for leave of court to file a<br>sur-reply on December 15, 2020  | Pa368 |
| Plaintiff's response to Defendants' request to<br>file a sur-reply, December 15, 2020   | Pa370 |
| Order granting Defendants' Cross-Claim to dismiss<br>Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, with prejudice,<br>and granting Defendants' objection to Plaintiff's<br>Motion for Injunctive Relief, filed<br>December 21, 2020   | Pa372 |
| Notice of Appeal, filed January 15, 2021  | Pa374 |

# # # # # # #

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E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

4  
5 **KENNETH FRANK IREK,**

6 *Plaintiff,*

7 v.

8 **NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION,**

9 *Defendant,*

10 and

11 **THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,**

12 *Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022 - 20

CIVIL ACTION

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS

13 TO: NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
25 W. Market Street  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, North Wing  
14 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

15 and

16 NEW JERSEY SUPREME COURT  
25 W. Market Street  
17 Supreme Court Clerk's Office  
18 Trenton, New Jersey 08611

19 Sir/ Madam:

20 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on December 18, 2020 at nine o'clock in the forenoon or as soon  
21 thereafter as Pro Se Plaintiff may be heard, the undersigned, Pro Se Plaintiff, shall move before the  
22 Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Mercer County Superior Court, 175 South Broad Street,  
23 P.O. Box 8068, Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068 for an Order for Temporary Restraints, preliminarily  
24 enjoining and restraining Defendant, New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, and Defendant,  
25 New Jersey Supreme Court, from:  
26

27 A. Continuing to engage in conduct related to compelling Plaintiff to reimburse the

28 NJLFCP for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the claimants (Szatmarys);

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022 - 20 CIVIL ACTION NOTICE OF MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS - 1



1 B. Intentionally threatening the arrest of Plaintiff;

2 C. Intentionally inducing others to unlawfully cancel, remove or not renew any  
3 privileges or rights of Plaintiff;

4 D. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
5 facts herein stated, in the State of California;

6 E. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
7 facts herein stated, in the State of New Jersey;

8 F. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
9 facts herein stated, in any other State where they may have been sent;

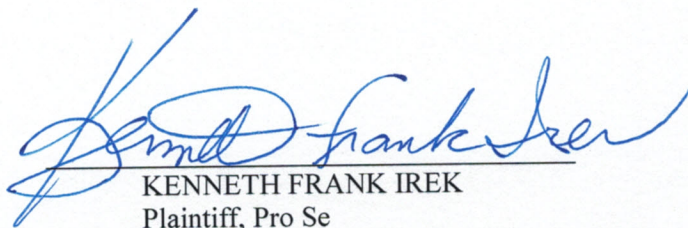
10 G. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing New Jersey Driver's License  
11 Forfeiture;

12 H. Defendants and other persons acting in concert with them and at their direction,  
13 from publishing, republishing, distributing and redistributing false, disparaging, defamatory and  
14 malicious statements, including but not limited to, that Plaintiff engaged in dishonest conduct;  
15 misappropriated money; and embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00.  
16

17  
18 **PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that this application is being submitted pursuant to Rule  
19 1:6-2 with the request that this matter be submitted to the Court for ruling on the moving papers, unless  
20 opposition is entered, in which case oral argument is requested. A proposed form of Order is annexed.  
21

22 **IN SUPPORT HEREOF**, the undersigned shall rely on the Certification of KENNETH FRANK  
23 IREK, and attachments which are submitted herewith.  
24

25  
26 Dated: November 27, 2020

27   
28 KENNETH FRANK IREK  
Plaintiff, Pro Se



1 Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
2 North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
3 Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com  
4

5 KENNETH FRANK IREK,  
6 *Plaintiff,*

7 v.

8 NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT  
9 PROTECTION,

10 *Defendant,*

11 and

12 THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,  
13 *Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022 - 20

CIVIL ACTION

CERTIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION  
FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS

14 KENNETH FRANK IREK, of full age, hereby certifies, by Certification in lieu of Affidavit;

15 1. I am the Pro Se Plaintiff in the above entitled action and am fully familiar with the facts  
16 and circumstances of the above entitled matter.

17 2. This Certification is made in support of Plaintiff's motion for Injunctive Relief -  
18 Temporary Restraints.

19 3. On November 18, 2020, Defendants were electronically served with Summons and  
20 Verified Complaint in the above-captioned matter.

21 4. The Plaintiff's claims arise out of actions of Defendant, NJLFCP, beginning in 1995, to  
22 collect \$5,000 from Plaintiff, as reimbursement for a claim paid by them to a claimant, for the conduct of  
23 Plaintiff, during a real estate transaction.

24 5. Based upon the facts set forth in the Verified Complaint, Defendant has caused the  
25 Mercer County Superior Court to issue an Order suspending Plaintiff's New Jersey Driver License.

26 6. Based upon the facts set forth in the Verified Complaint, Defendant has caused the New  
27 Jersey Driver's License Forfeiture to be sent directly to the California Department of Motor Vehicles,  
28 requesting them to suspend or refuse to renew Plaintiff's California driver license.

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022 - 20 CIVIL ACTION CERTIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS - 1



1 7. Based upon the facts set forth in the Verified Complaint, Defendant has caused the  
 2 issuance of a Bench Warrant, dated March 23, 2015, sent to County of Los Angeles, stating:  
 3 **'THEREFORE, we command you to take KENNETH F. IREK between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and**  
 4 **3:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday and safely and closely keep him in your custody in the**  
 5 **common jail of the County of Los Angeles until he shall be brought before the Honorable William**  
 6 **Ankowitz, J.S.C., Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County, or until said Court shall make**  
 7 **Order to the contrary.'**

8 8. Based upon the facts set forth in the Verified Complaint, Defendant, in a letter sent to  
 9 California Department of Motor Vehicles, dated October 22, 2004, Joanne M. Dietrich, Deputy Counsel  
 10 to the Defendant, NJLFCP, stated, inter alia, **'The Fund exists as a Committee of the Supreme Court**  
 11 **of New Jersey pursuant to R. 1:28-1 et seq. for the purpose of compensating the clients of**  
 12 **disciplined attorney who misappropriated money from them. Kenneth Irek was such an attorney.**  
 13 **His conduct while acting as a New Jersey lawyer, has resulted in claims with the Fund in the**  
 14 **amount of \$5,000.00.'**

15 9. Based upon the facts set forth in the Verified Complaint, immediate and irreparable  
 16 damage could result before a final resolution of this matter by trial or summary judgment, it is therefore  
 17 requested that an Order be issued preliminarily enjoining and restraining Defendants from:  
 18

19 A. Continuing to engage in conduct related to compelling Plaintiff to reimburse the  
 20 NJLFCP for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the claimants (Szatmarys);

21 B. Intentionally threatening the arrest of Plaintiff;

22 C. Intentionally inducing others to unlawfully cancel, remove or not renew any  
 23 privileges or rights of Plaintiff;

24 D. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
 25 facts herein stated, in the State of California;

26 E. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
 27 facts herein stated, in the State of New Jersey;



1 F. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
2 facts herein stated, in any other State where they may have sent them;

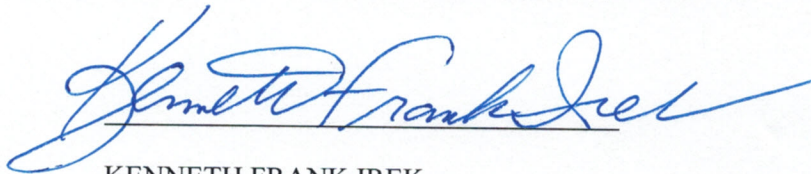
3 G. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing New Jersey Driver's License  
4 Forfeiture;

5 H. Defendants and other persons acting in concert with them and at their direction,  
6 from publishing, republishing, distributing and redistributing false, disparaging, defamatory and  
7 malicious statements, including but not limited to, that Plaintiff engaged in dishonest conduct;  
8 misappropriated money; and embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00;

9 I. Granting such other relief as the court deems equitable and just.

10 14. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any  
11 of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

12 Dated: November 27, 2020

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14 KENNETH FRANK IREK  
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Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
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KENNETH FRANK IREK,  
*Plaintiff,*

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT  
PROTECTION,

*Defendant,*

and

THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,  
*Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022-20

CIVIL ACTION

MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS

ORDER

**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court by Kenneth Frank Irek, Plaintiff, Pro Se, upon Notice of Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints in the above-titled action, for an Order entering Temporary Restraints against Defendants, appearing with notice to Defendants' counsel, and the Court having considered the papers submitted in support herein, along with any opposition submitted hereto, and the oral argument of Pro Se Plaintiff and Defendants' counsel, if any, and for good cause shown, IT IS on this            day of            , 2020:

**ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion is hereby GRANTED; and Defendants are preliminarily enjoined and restrained from:

A. Continuing to engage in conduct related to compelling Plaintiff to reimburse the NJLFCP for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the claimants (Szatmarys);

B. Intentionally threatening the arrest of Plaintiff;

C. Intentionally inducing others to unlawfully cancel, remove or not renew any privileges or rights of Plaintiff;

D. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in the State of California;



1 E. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
2 facts herein stated, in the State of New Jersey;

3 F. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the  
4 facts herein stated, in any other State where they may have been sent;

5 G. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing New Jersey Driver's License  
6 Forfeiture;

7 H. Defendants and other persons acting in concert with them and at their direction,  
8 from publishing, republishing, distributing and redistributing false, disparaging, defamatory and  
9 malicious statements, including but not limited to, that Plaintiff engaged in dishonest conduct;  
10 misappropriated money; and embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00.  
11

12 **ORDERED** pursuant to Rule 1:5-1(a), a copy of this order shall be served on all parties not  
13 served electronically, by regular mail within \_\_\_\_\_ days of its receipt by the moving party.  
14

15 \_\_\_\_\_  
16 **HONORABLE DOUGLAS H. HURD, J.S.C.**

17 In accordance with the required statement of R. 1:6-2(a), this Motion was  
18 \_\_\_\_\_ opposed \_\_\_\_\_ unopposed.  
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Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
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E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

**KENNETH FRANK IREK,**

*Plaintiff,*

v.

**NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION,**

*Defendant,*

and

**THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW  
JERSEY,**

*Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER-L-002022-20  
CIVIL ACTION

**Motion for Injunctive Relief  
Temporary Restraints**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

On November 28, 2020, I, Kenneth Frank Irek, sent the annexed Notice of Motion, Certification in Support of Motion, and Proposed Order by

- Delivering a true copy of each, electronically to both Defendants; and
- Express Priority Mail to:

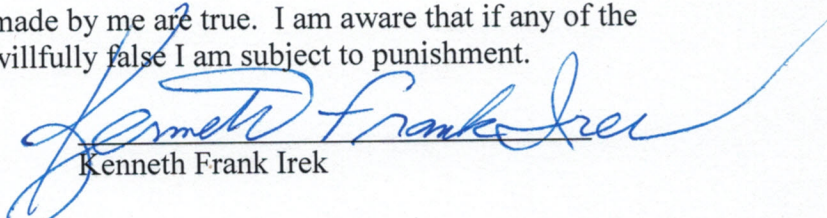
NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
RUBY COCHRAN, DEPUTY COUNSEL  
RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX  
25 W. MARKET STREET  
5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, NORTH WING  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

and

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
SUPREME COURT CLERK'S OFFICE  
ATTN: HEATHER JOY BAKER  
25 W. MARKET STREET  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08611

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false I am subject to punishment.

Dated: November 28, 2020

  
Kenneth Frank Irek

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street  
P.O. Box 116  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Attorney for Defendants,  
New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client  
Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey

By: Michael T. Moran (251732019)  
Deputy Attorney General  
609-376-3377  
Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov  
DOL# 20-02764

KENNETH FRANK IREK,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION and THE SUPREME  
COURT OF NEW JERSEY,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION MERCER COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2022-20

**CIVIL ACTION**

**NOTICE OF CROSS-MOTION TO  
DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S VERIFIED  
COMPLAINT**

**TO:** The Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P.J.Cv.  
Mercer County Superior Court  
175 South Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Kenneth Frank Irek, pro se  
8330 Haskell Avenue, Unit 226  
North Hills, California 91343

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that, on Friday, **December 18, 2020**, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, the undersigned, attorney for Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey, will apply to the Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P.J.Cv., for an Order dismissing Irek's Verified Complaint and denying Irek's Motion for Injunctive Relief in this matter.



**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, pursuant to Rule 1:6-2, it is requested that the Court consider this cross-motion on the papers submitted unless opposition is entered, in which case oral argument is requested.

In support of their cross-motion, the Judiciary Defendants will rely upon the attached Brief.

A proposed form of Order is attached.

**Discovery End Date:** NONE

**Arbitration Date:** NONE

**Trial Date:** NONE

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: /s/ Michael T. Moran  
Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney ID: 251732019

DATE: December 9, 2020

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street  
P.O. Box 116  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Attorney for Defendants,  
New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client  
Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey

By: Michael T. Moran (251732019)  
Deputy Attorney General  
609-376-3377  
Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov  
DOL# 20-02764

KENNETH FRANK IREK,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION and THE SUPREME  
COURT OF NEW JERSEY,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION MERCER COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2022-20

**CIVIL ACTION**

**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court on application of Plaintiff pro se Kenneth Frank Irek ("Irek") for injunctive relief, and Deputy Attorney General Michael T. Moran, appearing on behalf of Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey ("Judiciary Defendants"), having objected to Irek's application for injunctive relief and cross-moving for an Order dismissing the Verified Complaint with prejudice under Rule 4:6-2(a) for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and under Rule 4:6-2(e) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and the Court having considered the moving papers and for good cause shown;

**IT IS** on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

**ORDERED** that the Judiciary Defendants' Cross-Motion to Dismiss Irek's Verified Complaint is hereby **GRANTED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Irek's Verified Complaint against the Judiciary Defendants and their employees is hereby **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Irek's Motion for Injunctive Relief is hereby **DENIED WITH PREJUDICE**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that a copy of this Order shall be served upon the pro se plaintiff within ten days of it being uploaded onto eCourts.

\_\_\_\_\_  
HON. DOUGLAS H. HURD, P.J.Cv.

\_\_\_\_\_ Opposed

\_\_\_\_\_ Unopposed



KENNETH FRANK IREK,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION and THE SUPREME  
COURT OF NEW JERSEY,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION MERCER COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2022-20

**CIVIL ACTION**

---

BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION AND SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY'S CROSS-MOTION  
TO DISMISS THE VERIFIED COMPLAINT AND IN OPPOSITION TO  
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

---

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street  
P.O. Box 116  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Attorney for Defendants,  
New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client  
Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey

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**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

For the reasons set forth herein, Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection ("the Fund") and Supreme Court of New Jersey (collectively, "Judiciary Defendants") respectfully request that the Court grant their cross-motion to dismiss Plaintiff pro se Kenneth Frank Irek's ("Irek") Verified Complaint with prejudice under Rule 4:6-2(a) and/or Rule 4:6-2(e) and deny Irek's motion for injunctive relief.

As a threshold matter, the Verified Complaint should be dismissed for want of subject matter jurisdiction. Irek presents a number of claims against the Judiciary Defendants, namely the Fund's purported lack of jurisdiction to seek and obtain a default judgment against Irek. Essentially, he challenges the Fund's discretionary decisions, including its determination to award \$5,000.00 to two claimants and its decision to recoup that award by way of obtaining a judgment against Irek. The Supreme Court of New Jersey, however, maintains exclusive and plenary regulatory authority over the practice of law in this State, which encompasses the governance and control over the Fund. Explicit in this authority, direct claims against the Fund must be petitioned before the Supreme Court. As such, the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, lacks subject matter jurisdiction to adjudicate those disputes.

Notwithstanding the jurisdictional issue, Irek's tort claims should be dismissed because they are time-barred. Simply put, these claims accrued outside the applicable statutes of limitations and cannot be brought and litigated before the Court. Thus, Counts Four, Five, and Six of the Verified Complaint should be dismissed with prejudice for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Putting aside the incurable statute of limitations deficiency, the Judiciary Defendants are nevertheless entitled to absolute immunity in law and equity. Under the Tort Claims Act ("TCA"), a public entity is cloaked with immunity when a public employee is entitled to immunity. The Supreme Court of New Jersey has bestowed absolute immunity upon all personnel associated with the Fund, provided the alleged actions or inaction involved the performance of their official duties. Irek's cavils encompass actions or omissions taken by Fund personnel within their respective official capacities. Therefore, irrespective of whether a public entity or public employee is named in the suit, immunity attaches, and dismissal is the appropriate remedy.

Finally, Irek's motion for injunctive relief should be denied. In short, he has not shown - by clear and convincing proof - that he (1) has suffered irreparable harm; (2) stated a cognizable legal claim that has a likelihood of success on the merits; and (3) would suffer a substantial hardship if the



application was denied. Absent any showing to warrant the extraordinary relief, the application should be denied.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY<sup>1</sup>**

Irek, a California resident, is a former Colts Neck, New Jersey attorney who was disbarred in May 1993 "for the knowing misappropriation of escrow funds in violation of RPC 1.15(b) and RPC 8.4(c)."<sup>2</sup> See In re Irek, 132 N.J. 203, 204 (1993). His disbarment stemmed from a real estate transaction involving Zontan Szatmary and Cathleen Szatmary ("the Szatmarys"), in which Irek acted as an escrow agent. See Attachment 16 to Plaintiff's Verified Complaint. The facts giving rise to Irek's disbarment and the instant action will be summarized sequentially below.

**A. The May-June 1990 Real Estate Sale, Irek's Ensuing "Unavailability," the Fund's \$5,000.00 Default Judgment Against Irek, and the Judiciary Defendants' Attempts to Recover the Judgment**

In May 1990, Irek advertised the sale of a vacant construction lot in Jackson, New Jersey. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶ 11. Kirex Development Company, Inc. ("Kirex") owned the vacant

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<sup>1</sup> The statement of facts and procedural history have been combined for ease of understanding and to avoid repetition, as they are inextricably related.

<sup>2</sup> For reasons unknown at this time, although reasonably noticed of same, Irek did not appear before the Disciplinary Review Board or the New Jersey Supreme Court for the proceedings leading up to his disbarment.

lot. See id. ¶ 12. Irek was Kirex's sole shareholder, president, secretary, treasurer, and director. See id. ¶ 13.

The Szatmarys were interested in purchasing the vacant lot and retained the legal services of Dennis D. Poane, Esq., to complete the transaction. See id. ¶¶ 14-15. Between May 29, 1990 and June 6, 1990, the Szatmarys and Kirex - through its agent, Irek - executed a contract for sale of the lot. See id. ¶ 18. Cathleen Szatmary issued a check dated May 29, 1990 in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Kirex as an initial deposit of the lot's \$35,000.00 purchase price. See id. ¶ 19.

In August 1990, Irek "became unavailable and the closing never took place."<sup>3</sup> See id. ¶ 23. On April 12, 1991, the Szatmarys completed a Statement of Claim through the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, indicating that Irek - as an escrow agent - misappropriated the \$5,000.00 deposit. See id. ¶¶ 24-25. On November 26, 1993, the Fund agreed to pay the Szatmarys in the amount of \$5,000.00. See id. ¶ 27.

On December 29, 1994, Michael T. McCormick, Deputy Counsel for the Fund, filed a complaint in the Superior Court of New

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<sup>3</sup> Curiously, Irek does not indicate whether the Szatmarys' \$5,000.00 was returned before he "became unavailable." Based on the documents submitted with the Verified Complaint and considering he was disbarred for his unethical conduct in the underlying real estate transaction, one can reasonably infer that the Szatmarys were neither conveyed ownership of the lot nor returned their \$5,000.00 initial deposit.

Jersey, Law Division, Mercer County, Docket No. MER-L-5664-94, demanding Irek to reimburse the \$5,000.00 that was paid to the Szatmarys. See id. ¶ 28. Deputy Counsel McCormick advised the court that Irek “embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00 received by him on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Szatmary as funds to be held, in a fiduciary capacity, in escrow in connection with a real estate transaction.” See id. ¶ 29.

On March 22, 1995, a default judgment was entered against Irek in the amount of \$5,000.00, plus interest and costs of suit. See id. ¶ 31. Since the entry of default judgment, the Fund has attempted to recover the lien amount from Irek. See id. ¶ 32. From 1995-2017, the Judiciary Defendants issued 15 information subpoenas to Irek. See id. ¶ 35. From 2000-2017, Irek was served with 11 summonses to appear at an enforcement hearing at the Mercer County Civil Courthouse. See id. ¶ 34. On November 5, 2004 and March 23, 2015, two bench warrants were issued for Irek’s arrest. See id. ¶ 36. The March 23, 2015 bench warrant was later forwarded to the Sheriff of Los Angeles County, California. See id. ¶ 37. To achieve payment of the lien, the Judiciary Defendants also requested the California Department of Motor Vehicles to suspend or refuse to renew Irek’s driver’s license. See id. ¶¶ 39, 41.

To date, Irek owes \$2,500.00 on the default judgment. See id. ¶ 42.

**B. Irek's Verified Complaint and Request for Injunctive Relief**

On November 9, 2020, Irek filed a six-count Verified Complaint in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Civil Part, Mercer County. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint.

First, Irek contends that the Mercer County Superior Court lacked subject matter jurisdiction to issue the March 22, 1995 default judgment. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count One. The crux of Irek's quibbles revolve around the fact that the Szatmarys were represented by Mr. Poane, not Irek, and a fiduciary relationship between Irek and the Szatmarys was not established. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 63, 65. Instead, Irek claims that he entered into the purchase agreement as the President of Kirex and said conduct was not subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of New Jersey or the Fund. See id. ¶ 66.

Second, Irek - without any factual support - asserts that the Mercer County Superior Court entered the March 22, 1995 default judgment without personal jurisdiction over Irek. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count Two.

Third, Irek claims that the Fund lacked jurisdiction to pay the \$5,000.00 claim to the Szatmarys. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count Three. Although the Disciplinary Review Board concluded on December 28, 1992 that Irek "was also acting as an attorney" on behalf of Kirex when he absconded with the Szatmarys' funds, Irek claims that he "had no client-lawyer relationship with



the Szatmarys, did not hold himself out as an attorney, and was acting only as an individual and President of his solely owned New Jersey corporation." See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 92, 93B. Twenty-five years later, Irek now avers that he "was not subject to the New Jersey Rules of Professional Conduct," and "[t]he New Jersey Supreme Court did not have jurisdiction over [him] while acting as resident and Secretary of his solely-owned New Jersey corporation." See id. ¶¶ 94-95. In turn, he argues that the Fund lacked the authority to award \$5,000.00 to the Szatmarys because the Supreme Court's disbarment order is null and void. See id. ¶ 99.

Fourth, Irek alleges that the Judiciary Defendants are liable for common law fraud. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count Four. He asserts that on December 29, 1994, Deputy Counsel McCormick knowingly made material misrepresentations regarding the Szatmarys' legal representation during the aforementioned real estate transaction. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 102, 104-106.

Fifth, Irek makes a claim for "intentional infliction of mental duress." See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count Five. He cites to the Judiciary Defendants' "various activities to compel [him] to reimburse the [Fund] for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the Szatmarys," claiming that "[t]hese activities . . . are still continuing." See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 112-113.

Specifically, from 2000-2017, Irek alleges that the Judiciary Defendants sent "at least 39 letters" regarding the Fund's attempt to collect the \$5,000.00 judgment. See id. ¶ 115. Irek references: (1) a July 28, 2006 order to suspend his driver's license; (2) an August 14, 2006 letter to Irek in which the Judiciary Defendants advised him that they would seek a suspension of his California driver's license if he did not remit payment for the \$5,000.00 judgment; (3) an October 6, 2006 letter in which the Judiciary Defendants requested the California Department of Motor Vehicles to suspend or refuse to renew his driver's license for failure to pay his financial arrears; and (4) a March 30, 2015 letter to Irek in which the Judiciary Defendants advised him of the bench warrant against him and a final request to enter a consent order for repayment before the prosecution of the bench warrant. See id. ¶¶ 116-119.

Sixth, Irek brings a "libel-defamation" claim. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Count Six. He contends that the Judiciary Defendants have "published written statements containing disparaging and defamatory statements that were intended to libel and defame [him]." See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶ 133. He buttresses his claim on alleged publications dated December 29, 1994, October 22, 2004, and October 6, 2006; the genesis of this claim is Irek's contention that he did not misappropriate the \$5,000.00 in a fiduciary capacity. See id. ¶¶ 134-136.

In light of the above-mentioned allegations, Irek requests (1) the March 1995 default judgment be declared void ab initio; (2) injunctive relief enjoining the Judiciary Defendants from compelling Irek's payment of the \$5,000.00 default judgment; (3) injunctive relief ordering the cancellation of all bench warrants; (4) injunctive relief ordering the restoration of his New Jersey and California driving privileges; (5) injunctive relief enjoining the Judiciary Defendants from publishing defamatory and malicious statements about Irek regarding his misappropriation of funds; (6) the May 11, 1993 disbarment order be declared void ab initio; (7) his New Jersey bar license be reinstated; (8) repayment of \$2,500.00 that was previously remitted to the Fund; (9) compensatory damages; and (10) punitive damages. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, Prayer for Relief, pp. 19-22.

On November 28, 2020, Irek filed a "Notice of Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints." He argues that there is "immediate and irreparable damage" prior to a final adjudication in this matter and seeks injunctive relief. He seeks a preliminary injunction enjoining the Judiciary Defendants from:

- A. Continuing to engage in conduct related to compelling Plaintiff to reimburse the NJLFCP for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the claimants (Szatmarys);
- B. Intentionally threatening the arrest of Plaintiff;

- C. Intentionally inducing others to unlawfully cancel remove or not renew any privileges or rights of Plaintiff;
- D. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in the State of California;
- E. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in the State of New Jersey;
- F. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in any other State where they may have sent them;
- G. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing New Jersey Driver's License Forfeiture;
- H. Defendants and other persons acting in concert with them and at their direction, from publishing, republishing, distributing and redistributing false, disparaging, defamatory and malicious statements, including but not limited to, that Plaintiff engaged in dishonest conduct, misappropriated money; and embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00;
- I. Granting such other relief as the court deems equitable and just.

[See Plaintiff's Certification in Support of Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints, ¶ 9.]

The Judiciary Defendants cross-move to dismiss the Verified Complaint with prejudice under Rule 4:6-2(a) and Rule 4:6-2(e) and move in opposition to Irek's application for injunctive relief.

**STANDARD OF REVIEW**

**A. Rule 4:6-2(a)**

A court's subject matter jurisdiction cannot be waived, and the defense can be raised at any time during litigation, including on appeal. Triffin v. Se. Pa. Transp. Auth., 462 N.J. Super. 172, 178 (App. Div. 2020). Consistent with this principle, the New Jersey Court Rules dictate, in pertinent part:

Every defense, legal or equitable, in law or fact, to a claim for relief in any complaint . . . shall be asserted in the answer thereto, except that the following defenses . . . may at the option of the pleader be made by motion, with briefs: (a) lack of jurisdiction over the subject matter. . . .

[R. 4:6-2(a).]

Jurisdiction over the subject matter "does not depend upon the sufficiency of a complaint in a particular case, nor the technical manner in which the cause is pleaded." Abbott v. Beth Israel Cemetery Ass'n of Woodbridge, 13 N.J. 528, 536-37 (1953) (citing Baron v. Peoples Nat'l Bank of Secaucus, 9 N.J. 249, 258 (1952)). "It is the Power of the court to hear and determine a case of the class to which the one to be adjudicated is relegated." Petersen v. Falzarano, 6 N.J. 447, 454 (1951). Because jurisdiction is a threshold legal issue, a reviewing court should dismiss an action if it determines subject matter jurisdiction is lacking. Royster v. N.J. State Police, 439 N.J. Super. 554, 568 (App. Div. 2015), aff'd in part and modified in part by, 227 N.J. 482 (2017).



**B. Rule 4:6-2(e)**

In addition to raising a subject matter jurisdiction defense, the New Jersey Court Rules dictate:

Every defense, legal or equitable, in law or fact, to a claim for relief in any complaint . . . shall be asserted in the answer thereto, except that the following defenses . . . may at the option of the pleader be made by motion, with briefs: . . . (e) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. . . .

[R. 4:6-2(e).]

At the motion to dismiss stage, a court must examine the legal sufficiency of the facts asserted in the complaint and determine whether a cause of action is "suggested" by the facts. Printing Mart-Morristown v. Sharp Elecs. Corp., 116 N.J. 739, 746 (1989). The court must "search[] the complaint in depth and with liberality to ascertain whether the fundament of a cause of action may be gleaned." Ibid. (quoting Di Cristofaro v. Laurel Grove Mem'l Park, 43 N.J. Super. 244, 252 (App. Div. 1957)). The plaintiff is afforded "every reasonable inference of fact," as the court will not base its finding on the plaintiff's ability to prove the allegations contained within the complaint. Ibid. In fact, the court must accept as true the plaintiff's version of the events. Rumbauskas v. Cantor, 138 N.J. 173, 175 (1994).

In making these determinations, the court may look to whether the plaintiff's complaint complies with the statute of limitations. See Smith v. Datla, 451 N.J. Super. 82, 88 (App. Div.

2017). Further, an immunity question should be adjudicated “early in a proceeding,” and a motion to dismiss “is a particularly effective device to resolve any claim of immunity.” See Malik v. Ruttenberg, 398 N.J. Super. 489, 494 (App. Div. 2008) (citing Wildoner v. Borough of Ramsey, 162 N.J. 375, 387 (2000)). Although a complaint should be accorded “meticulous and indulgent examination” and dismissed “in only the rarest of instances,” dismissal with prejudice is the appropriate remedy if the plaintiff is categorically impeded from bringing a viable cause of action. See Printing Mart-Morristown, 116 N.J. at 772.

### **ARGUMENT**

#### **POINT I**

#### **IREK’S VERIFIED COMPLAINT SHOULD BE DISMISSED BECAUSE THIS COURT LACKS SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OVER IREK’S CLAIMS.**

Under the New Jersey Constitution, the Supreme Court of New Jersey is vested with exclusive regulatory authority over the State bar. See N.J. Const. art. VI, § II, para. 3. Indeed, the Court has noted that through this constitutional provision, it “has exercised plenary, exclusive, and almost unchallenged power over the practice of law.” In re Li Volsi, 85 N.J. 576, 585 (1981).

Pursuant to this authority, the Court established the New Jersey Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection “for the express purpose of reimbursing, to a certain extent, the losses caused by the dishonest conduct of members of the New Jersey bar.” GE Capital

Mortg. Servs., Inc. v. N.J. Title Ins. Co., 333 N.J. Super. 1, 5 (App. Div. 2000). The Supreme Court appoints seven trustees to administer and operate the Fund. R. 1:28-1(a). The Court has dictated that “[n]o claimant or any other person or organization shall have any right in the Fund as beneficiary or otherwise.” R. 1:28-3(d). Rather, it directed that the seven trustees shall be conferred with “sole discretion” to determine “which eligible claims merit reimbursement from the Fund and the amount, time, manner, conditions and order of payment of reimbursement.” R. 1:28-3(b).

In GE Capital Mortgage Services, Inc., the plaintiff filed a claim with the Fund, seeking reimbursement of monies in the amount of \$694,146.75 that were misappropriated by an attorney during a real estate transaction. See 333 N.J. Super. at 3-4. A representative from the Fund advised the plaintiff that it would not consider the claim because of a lack of an attorney-client relationship between the plaintiff and the attorney and “the strong possibility” that the plaintiff could recoup its loss in full from collateral sources. Id. at 4. The plaintiff filed a verified complaint with the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, against the Fund and the parties involved in the underlying real estate transaction. Ibid. The plaintiff argued that it suffered a loss as a result of the attorney’s “dishonest conduct and demanded that it be declared a proper claimant against the Fund and that

the Fund be ordered to recognize and pay its claim.” Ibid. The Fund moved to dismiss the verified complaint, citing to a want of subject matter jurisdiction. Ibid. The trial court agreed and dismissed the claims against the Fund. Ibid.

On appeal, the Appellate Division affirmed. Id. at 7. The court found that the plaintiff’s argument that “it should be permitted to utilize the court system to establish a viable and enforceable claim against the Fund[] . . . directly violate[s] the procedure established by our Supreme Court for the processing of such claims.” Id. at 6. Citing to “the novel jurisdictional and public policy implications of permitting direct claims against the Fund,” the court held that permitting a claim against the Fund to proceed in the Law Division “would intrude improperly on matters clearly vested in the Fund by the Supreme Court.” Ibid.

Turning to the present case, Irek attempts to circumvent the explicit Court Rules and invite this Court to encroach upon matters vested in the Fund through the Supreme Court. In sum, he challenges (1) the Fund’s discretion in awarding the Szatmarys \$5,000.00 in November 1993; and (2) the Fund’s decision to recoup the November 1993 loss by seeking and obtaining a \$5,000.00 against him. However, the Fund is wholly a creature of our Supreme Court; hence, any claim against the Fund deriving from its discretionary authority must be brought before that Court. GE Capital Mortgage Services, Inc. unequivocally instructs that claims against the

Fund cannot be brought in Superior Court. See 333 N.J. Super. at 6 (“[T]he mere fact that R. 1:28-2(f) specifically grants immunity from suit to the Fund’s trustees and personnel will not be interpreted as an inferential endorsement by the Supreme Court of direct claims against the Fund in the trial divisions.”). Succinctly stated, this Court lacks authority to scrutinize the decision-making that is within the “sole discretion” of seven trustees who were appointed by and answer directly to the Supreme Court. Absent an express sanction of the Supreme Court, Irek is barred from pursuing any claims against the Fund in this Court.<sup>4</sup>

Likewise, to the extent Irek seeks a reinstatement of his New Jersey law license, this Court also lacks jurisdiction to grant such relief. Principally, any relief in this matter irrefutably requires a reopening of Irek’s disbarment proceeding, as the Fund’s award to the Szatmarys was not plausible unless and until Irek was disbarred for dishonest, unethical conduct. See Plaintiff’s Verified Complaint, ¶ 99. As stated above, the Supreme Court governs the regulation of the practice of law in New Jersey. See N.J. Const. art. VI, § II, para. 3 (“The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction over the admission to the practice of law and the

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<sup>4</sup> The gravamen of Irek’s requested relief is a vacation of the default judgment that was entered under docket number MER-L-5664-94. His proper recourse remains with filing a motion to vacate the default judgment in that specific case under Rule 4:50-1, not filing a new, separate lawsuit in Superior Court.



discipline of persons admitted.”). The Court clearly indicated in its May 13, 1993 Order that Irek “be disbarred and that his name be stricken from the roll of attorneys of this State,” as well as “permanently restrained and enjoined from practicing law” in New Jersey. In re Irek, 132 N.J. at 204. This Court cannot unilaterally reverse the Supreme Court’s decision to disbar Irek, thereby divesting it of jurisdiction to hear this matter.

Therefore, this Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction and should dismiss the Verified Complaint without having to delve into the merits of the pleading or Irek’s application for injunctive relief.

## POINT II

### **IREK’S TORT CLAIMS ARE TIME-BARRED UNDER THE APPLICABLE STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS.**

The TCA is a comprehensive statutory scheme that establishes the parameters for tort claims against State entities, including notice and investigation provisions, as well as substantive rules pertaining to immunity from suit. See N.J.S.A. 59:1-1, et seq. It modified the traditional sovereign immunity doctrine and established the limited circumstances in which a party may assert tort claims against the State and its entities. Feinberg v. N.J. Dep’t of Env’tl. Prot., 137 N.J. 126, 133 (1994).

In enacting the TCA, the Legislature declared:

The Legislature recognizes the inherently unfair and inequitable results which occur in

the strict application of the traditional doctrine of sovereign immunity. On the other hand the Legislature recognizes that while a private entrepreneur may readily be held liable for negligence within the chosen ambit of his activity, the area within which government has the power to act for the public good is almost without limit and therefore government should not have the duty to do everything that might be done. Consequently, it is hereby declared to be the public policy of this State that public entities shall only be liable for their negligence within the limitations of this act and in accordance with the fair and uniform principles established herein. All of the provisions of this act should be construed with a view to carry out the above legislative declaration.

[N.J.S.A. 59:1-2 (emphasis added).]

Reflective of the Legislature's express intent, the TCA's guiding principle is that "immunity from tort liability is the general rule and liability is the exception." Coyne v. State, 182 N.J. 481, 488 (2005) (quoting Garrison v. Twp. of Middletown, 154 N.J. 282, 286 (1998)). Consequently, it "imposes strict requirements upon litigants seeking to file claims against public entities," see McDade v. Siazon, 208 N.J. 463, 468 (2011), including several statutes of limitations, see N.J.S.A. 59:8-8 (90-day statute of limitations to present a notice of claim to a public entity); N.J.S.A. 59:8-9 (one-year statute of limitations to present a late notice of claim motion to the appropriate court); N.J.S.A. 59:8-8b (two-year statute of limitations to file suit against a public entity).

Statutes of limitations are equitable in nature and promote timely and efficient litigation, penalize dilatoriness, and serve as measures of repose. Montells v. Haynes, 133 N.J. 282, 292-93 (1993). In turn, they spare courts from litigating stale claims. Smith, 451 N.J. Super. at 92. Consistent with these general principles, the TCA provides that a plaintiff will be "forever barred" from "recovering against a public entity" unless he files suit within two years of a claim's accrual. N.J.S.A. 59:8-8b; see also Velez v. City of Jersey City, 180 N.J. 284, 290 (2004) (stating that a tort claim against a public entity must be filed "within two years after the claim's accrual") (citing N.J.S.A. 59:8-8b).

Broadly speaking, a cause of action accrues on the date when "the right to institute and maintain a suit" first arises. Russo Farms v. Vineland Bd. of Educ., 144 N.J. 84, 98 (1996) (quoting Rosenau v. City of New Brunswick, 51 N.J. 130, 137 (1968)); see also Dunn v. Borough of Mountainside, 301 N.J. Super. 262, 273 (App. Div. 1997) (noting that "a tort claim accrues when a person is injured due to another person's fault"), certif. denied, 153 N.J. 402 (1998). Stated differently, a claim accrues when a plaintiff knows that he is injured, and a public entity is responsible for the alleged injuries. See Beauchamp v. Amedio, 164 N.J. 111, 118-19 (2000); see also N.J.S.A. 59:8-1 (stating that "[a]ccrual shall mean the date on which the claim accrued").

Here, Irek's claims for common law fraud (Count Four), "intentional infliction of mental duress" (Count Five), and "libel-defamation" (Count Six) are all time-barred under the applicable statutes of limitations.<sup>5</sup> This case epitomizes the necessity for statutes of limitations. Each claim will be analyzed in turn.

As for the common law fraud claim, the complained of conduct occurred on December 29, 1994, the date in which Deputy Counsel McCormick filed a complaint against Irek to collect the \$5,000.00 that he owed the Fund. On that date or soon thereafter, Irek would have reasonably known that he had a potential claim against a public entity or employee, as the alleged fraud was committed at that particular time. However, nearly 26 years have elapsed since the alleged conduct occurred, and the claim is well outside the TCA's two-year statute of limitations. Thus, Count Four of the Verified Complaint should be dismissed with prejudice.

Next, Irek's "intentional infliction of mental duress" claim is premised upon correspondence that the Judiciary Defendants

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<sup>5</sup> In addition to the statute of limitations defense, there is also a question of whether Irek served a timely notice of claim prior to initiating suit against the Judiciary Defendants. See N.J.S.A. 59:8-8. In the event the Court declines to dismiss his tort claims for the reasons delineated in this motion, the Judiciary Defendants reserve the right to file a motion to dismiss the Verified Complaint for failure to file a notice of claim with 90 days of the tort claims' accrual. See N.J.S.A. 59:8-8a.

purportedly sent between 2000 and 2017. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶ 115. He references various communications and documents dated July 28, 2006; August 14, 2006; October 6, 2006; March 23, 2015; and March 30, 2015. See id. ¶¶ 116-120. At the latest, despite his claim that he "continues to suffer[] extreme emotional distress," Irek's emotional distress claim accrued over five years ago, namely March 30, 2015. See id. ¶ 122. Irek's allegation of continuing extreme emotional distress is unavailing and inconsequential to the accrual of his tort claim. See Russo Farms, 144 N.J. at 114 (concluding that "a wrongful act with consequential continuing damages is not a continuing tort" and does not lengthen the statute of limitations) (quoting Ricottilli v. Summersville Mem'l Hosp., 188 W. Va. 674 (1992)). Therefore, Count Five of the Verified Complaint is time-barred under the two-year statute of limitations and should be dismissed with prejudice.

Lastly, Irek's "libel-defamation" claim is equally barred by the more stringent one-year statute of limitations.<sup>6</sup> See N.J.S.A. 2A:14-3; Patel v. Soriano, 369 N.J. Super. 192, 247 (App. Div.), certif. denied, 182 N.J. 141 (2004). Irek attributes this claim to alleged writings published in December 29, 1994; October 22, 2004; and October 6, 2006. See Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 134-

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<sup>6</sup> Even assuming the TCA's two-year statute of limitations applies, Irek's claim is still time-barred under that more generous standard.



136. Akin to the preceding emotional distress claim, Irek's claim that "[t]he intentional wrongful conduct . . . is[] continuing and ongoing" does not negate the undisputable fact that, at the latest, the complained of publications were made available in 2006 and outside the statute of limitations period. See Churchill v. State, 378 N.J. Super. 471, 478 (App. Div. 2005) (holding that a defamation claim's one-year statute of limitations "runs from the date of publication of the alleged libel or slander"). Thus, Count Six is time-barred and should be dismissed with prejudice.

Therefore, Irek is "forever barred" from asserting tort claims against the Judiciary Defendants in this matter, and same should be dismissed with prejudice.

### POINT III

**THE JUDICIARY DEFENDANTS ARE IMMUNE FROM SUIT IN LAW AND EQUITY BECAUSE THE IMMUNITY AFFORDED TO THE TRUSTEES AND DEPUTY COUNSEL FOR CONDUCT IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES EXTENDS TO THE PUBLIC ENTITIES THEY REPRESENT.**

Generally, the Supreme Court of New Jersey regulates the operation and administration of the Fund. See N.J. Lawyers' Fund for Client Prot. v. Pace, 186 N.J. 123, 126 (2006). The Court has found that the bar's reputation is sullied when a lawyer violates the law, but sustained when the Fund's trustees determine that a claim should be covered by the Fund. Ibid. As a result, it confers the Fund with broad discretion in determining whether a claim

merits reimbursement. See N.J. Lawyers' Fund for Client Prot. v. First Fidelity Bank, N.A., 303 N.J. Super. 208, 210-11 (App. Div.), certif. denied, 152 N.J. 13 (1997). In accordance with these maxims, essentially codifying the doctrine of quasi-judicial immunity, the Court Rules provide that "[t]he Board of Trustees, Director and Counsel, Deputy Counsel, and Secretary and all staff personnel shall be absolutely immune from suit, whether legal or equitable in nature, for any conduct in the performance of their official duties." R. 1:28-1(f) (emphasis added). Further, the TCA provides that "[a] public entity is not liable for an injury resulting from an act or omission of a public employee where the public employee is not liable." N.J.S.A. 59:2-2b.

Here, assuming the Court finds Points I and II of this brief unpersuasive, Irek's tort claims and requests for monetary and injunctive relief should be denied because the Judiciary Defendants are entitled to absolute immunity. Irek complains of conduct that falls squarely within the Fund's trustees and deputy counsel's official responsibilities, namely their attempts to pursue and recover an outstanding amount from a judgment that was rightfully obtained. None of the purported conduct is alleged to have occurred outside the employment scope of the trustees and deputy counsel. Thus, the trustees and deputy counsel enjoy immunity in law and equity. Because the public employees are

entitled to absolute immunity, the Judiciary Defendants, public entities, are equally entitled to immunity. See N.J.S.A. 59:2-2b.

Therefore, the Judiciary Defendants are shielded with absolute immunity, and all relief in law and equity should be denied.

#### POINT IV

**IREK HAS NOT DEMONSTRATED BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING PROOF THAT HE IS ENTITLED TO INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.**

The long recognized standard for granting equitable injunctive relief was announced by our Supreme Court in Crowe v. De Gioia, 90 N.J. 126 (1982). In determining whether injunctive relief is warranted, a reviewing court should analyze the following factors: (1) such relief is necessary to prevent irreparable harm; (2) there is a settled underlying claim and a showing of reasonable probability of success on the merits; and (3) the relative hardship to the parties in granting or denying relief. See id. at 132-34. An injunction may only be granted when the application is supported with "clear and convincing proof." Dolan v. De Capua, 16 N.J. 599, 614 (1954). In reviewing an injunctive relief application, a court must undertake "the most sensitive exercise of judicial discretion." Crowe, 90 N.J. at 132.

As to the first Crowe factor, it is axiomatic that injunctive relief "should not be entered except when necessary to prevent substantial, immediate and irreparable harm." Subcarrier Commc'ns,

Inc. v. Day, 299 N.J. Super. 634, 638 (App. Div. 1997). For harm to be irreparable, an applicant must have no adequate remedy at law. Ibid.

Next, the applicant must show that he presents a legally-settled right and can demonstrate a likelihood of success on the merits. Crowe, 90 N.J. at 133. To prevail on an application for temporary relief, the claim must be premised upon rights or causes of action that are cognizable under the law. See Plotnick v. DeLuccia, 434 N.J. Super. 597, 618 (Ch. Div. 2013). Moreover, a preliminary injunction should not be granted when all material facts are controverted. Crowe, 90 N.J. at 133.

Lastly, the final factor summons a balancing test of the hardships to the parties if relief is granted or denied. Id. at 134. In making this balance, a court must determine whether the equities favor maintaining or disturbing the status quo pending the ultimate resolution of the case. Id. at 134-35.

Guided by the above principles, Irek's application for injunctive relief is meritless. As to the irreparable harm factor, Irek faces no harm via an ongoing violation of his rights. The Judiciary Defendants are merely utilizing proper channels to satisfy the default judgment against Irek. Despite Irek's conclusory allegations to the contrary, he has not demonstrated that the judgment was improperly procured. The judgment exists only because Irek - as an escrow agent on behalf of Kirex -

misappropriated the Szatmarys' funds, which in turn resulted in the Szatmarys applying for and receiving an award from the Fund in that exact amount. The mere fact that he was not the Szatmarys' attorney does not negate the obvious that the Szatmarys' initial deposit was held in escrow and Irek was the designated escrow agent when he absconded with their money. The Disciplinary Review Board and Supreme Court found this conduct to be in violation of the appropriate Rules of Professional Conduct, which warranted the disbarment and the Szatmarys' ensuing entitlement to an award from the Fund.

Moreover, over two decades have elapsed since the default judgment was entered, and Irek failed to contest the judgment's validity on numerous occasions. To come before the Court and argue that he would suffer an "immediate and irreparable damage" before the resolution of this matter is nothing short of disingenuous. He was provided ample opportunities to challenge the judgment, but he elected to ignore the notices, see Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, ¶¶ 34-35, which ultimately resulted in the Judiciary Defendants pursuing alternative and appropriate enforcement measures. Simply stated, Irek is not subject to any immediate or irreparable harm. Therefore, the first Crowe factor is not met.

Second, as referenced in Points I, II, and III of this brief, Irek does not state a cognizable cause of action against the Judiciary Defendants. To recap, (1) his claims are barred because



this Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction; (2) his claims are time-barred under the applicable statutes of limitations; and (3) the Judiciary Defendants are entitled to absolute immunity. Accordingly, no cause of action can be sustained against the Judiciary Defendants, and there is no likelihood of success on the merits. Because this matter should be dismissed in its entirety with prejudice on the merits, the second Crowe factor weighs in favor of denying the injunction.

Finally, Irek would suffer no hardship if the injunction was denied. The default judgment was entered in 1995, and the Judiciary Defendants have attempted to recover the judgment since that time. He has effectively discounted any and all subsequent notices that the Judiciary Defendants have sent him insofar that he could be heard on the matter. Now, years later, Irek baselessly claims that this judgment and the notices/enforcement measures stemming from that judgment have somehow caused him some hardship. However, his threadbare recitals of hardship fail to vault the clear and convincing standard needed to warrant an injunction. Further, in the event an injunction was granted, the Judiciary Defendants would incur a substantial hardship because they would be precluded from enforcing their rights as litigants, namely satisfying the judgment that was lawfully obtained. Hence, the equities necessitate a maintenance of the status quo pending resolution of this case. Therefore, the third Crowe factor is not satisfied.

Consequently, Irek's motion for injunctive relief should be denied.

**CONCLUSION**

For these reasons, the Judiciary Defendants respectfully request that the Court grant the cross-motion to dismiss and dismiss Plaintiff's Verified Complaint with prejudice for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and, in the alternative, failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Moreover, the Judiciary Defendants respectfully request that Irek's application for injunctive relief be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: /s/ Michael T. Moran  
Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney ID: 251732019

DATE: December 9, 2020

**CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the within Notice of Cross-Motion to Dismiss Irek's Verified Complaint and Opposition to Irek's Motion for Injunctive Relief, along with the accompanying Brief, were filed via eCourts filing with the Clerk, Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Mercer County. I further certify that the Notice of Cross-Motion, Opposition, and all supporting papers were served upon the pro se plaintiff in accordance with Rule 1:5 via certified and regular mail:

Kenneth Frank Irek, pro se  
8330 Haskell Avenue, Unit 226  
North Hills, California 91343

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

/s/ Michael T. Moran  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney ID: 251732019

DATE: December 9, 2020



*State of New Jersey*  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF LAW  
25 MARKET STREET  
P.O. Box 116  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0116

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
*Attorney General*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

MICHELLE L. MILLER  
*Director*

December 9, 2020

**VIA eCOURTS AND REGULAR MAIL**

The Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P.J.Cv.  
Mercer County Superior Court  
175 South Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Re: Irek v. N.J. Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, et al.  
Docket No. MER-L-2022-20  
DOL# 20-02764

Dear Judge Hurd:

Enclosed please find Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey's Cross-Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff Kenneth Frank Irek's Verified Complaint and Opposition to Irek's Motion for Injunctive Relief. The cross-motion to dismiss and motion for injunctive relief are returnable **December 18, 2020.**

Respectfully yours,

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

/s/ Michael T. Moran  
Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney ID: 251732019

cc: Kenneth Frank Irek, pro se (via certified & regular mail)



Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

**KENNETH FRANK IREK,**

*Plaintiff,*

v.

**NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION,**

*Defendant,*

and

**THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,**

*Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER – L – 002022 - 20

CIVIL ACTION

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS AND REPLY TO  
DEFENDANTS' CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS  
PLAINTIFF'S VERIFIED COMPLAINT

TO: The Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv.  
Mercer County Superior Court  
175 South Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
ATTN: Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
R. J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street  
PO Box 116  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Representing the Defendants:

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
25 W. Market Street  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, North Wing  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

and

NEW JERSEY SUPREME COURT  
25 W. Market Street  
Supreme Court Clerk's Office  
Trenton, New Jersey 08611

DOCKET NO. MER – L – 002022 - 20 CIVIL ACTION NOTICE OF MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS AND REPLY TO DEFENDANTS' CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S  
VERIFIED COMPLAINT - 1





Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

KENNETH FRANK IREK,  
*Plaintiff,*

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT  
PROTECTION,

*Defendant,*

and

THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,  
*Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022-20

CIVIL ACTION

ORDER

**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court by Kenneth Frank Irek, Plaintiff, Pro Se, upon Notice of Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints in the above-entitled action, for an Order entering Temporary Restraints against Defendants, and Defendants having objected to the Motion by way of a Cross-Motion dismissing the Plaintiff's Verified Complaint combined with an objection to Plaintiff's requested Order for Temporary Restraints, and the Court having considered the papers submitted in support herein, along with the papers submitted by Defendants in opposition and Cross-Claim to dismiss Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, and the oral argument, if any, and for good cause shown;

IT IS on this                    day of                    , 2020:

**ORDERED** that Defendants' Cross-Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Verified Complaint is hereby **DENIED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Defendants' objection to granting Plaintiff's Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints is hereby **DENIED**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints, is hereby **GRANTED**; and Defendants are preliminarily enjoined and restrained from:

A. Continuing to engage in conduct related to compelling Plaintiff to reimburse the

DOCKET NO. MER - L - 002022-20                    CIVIL ACTION ORDER - 1

NJLFCP for the \$5,000 claim they had paid to the claimants (Szatmarys);

B. Intentionally threatening the arrest of Plaintiff;

C. Intentionally inducing others to unlawfully cancel, remove or not renew any privileges or rights of Plaintiff;

D. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in the State of California;

E. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in the State of New Jersey;

F. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing all Bench Warrants related to the facts herein stated, in any other State where they may have been sent;

G. Enforcing, continuing in effect or re-issuing New Jersey Driver’s License Forfeiture;

H. Defendants and other persons acting in concert with them and at their direction, from publishing, republishing, distributing and redistributing false, disparaging, defamatory and malicious statements, including but not limited to, that Plaintiff engaged in dishonest conduct; misappropriated money; and embezzled, misapplied and converted to his own use the sum of \$5,000.00.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that pursuant to Rule 1:5-1(a), a copy of this Order shall be served on all parties not served electronically, by regular mail within \_\_\_\_\_ days of its receipt by the moving party.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**HONORABLE DOUGLAS H. HURD, P. J. Cv.**

In accordance with the required statement of Rule 1:6-2(a), this Motion was \_\_\_\_\_ opposed \_\_\_\_\_ unopposed.

Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

**KENNETH FRANK IREK,**

*Plaintiff,*

v.

**NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION,**

*Defendant,*

and

**THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW  
JERSEY,**

*Defendant*

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY  
LAW DIVISION

DOCKET NO. MER-L-002022-20  
CIVIL ACTION

**Reply To Defendants' Cross-Motion to  
Dismiss and Reply To Defendants'  
Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion For  
Injunctive Relief**

**CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE**

On December 14, 2020, I, Kenneth Frank Irek, certify that the annexed Notice of Motion, Brief in Support of Motion, Proposed Order, and all supporting papers, were filed via eCourts with the Clerk, Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County, Law Division, and a true copy served upon the Defendants by:

  ✓   Emailing to:  
       Priority Mail to:

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
ATTN: Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
R. J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 Market Street  
PO Box 116  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov

Representing the Defendants:

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
R. J. Hughes Justice Complex  
25 W. Market Street  
5th Floor, North Wing  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625





*State of New Jersey*  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF LAW  
25 MARKET STREET  
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PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
*Attorney General*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

MICHELLE L. MILLER  
*Director*

December 15, 2020

**VIA eCOURTS**

The Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P.J.Cv.  
Mercer County Superior Court  
175 South Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Re: Irek v. N.J. Lawyers' Fund for Client Prot., et al.  
Docket No. MER-L-2022-20  
DOL# 20-02764

Dear Judge Hurd:

As Your Honor is aware, this office represents Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey ("Judiciary Defendants") in the above-captioned matter. Pending before the Court is Plaintiff Kenneth Frank Irek's ("Irek") motion for injunctive relief and the Judiciary Defendants' cross-motion to dismiss the verified complaint. Both motions are returnable December 18, 2020.

On December 14, 2020, Irek filed opposition papers to the Judiciary Defendants' cross-motion to dismiss. At numerous points in his response, Irek misconstrues New Jersey law and procedure, which warrants correction. However, under the Court Rules, the Judiciary Defendants are precluded from filing reply papers to its cross-motion absent leave of court. See R. 1:6-3(b).

In light of the foregoing, pursuant to Rules 1:6-3(a)-(b), the Judiciary Defendants respectfully request leave of court to file a sur-reply and clarify the issues addressed in Irek's reply. Alternatively, the Judiciary Defendants respectfully request oral argument on the pending motions. In the event Your Honor grants oral argument, I currently have depositions scheduled in the





December 15, 2020

Page 2

morning this Friday, but my schedule remains open in the afternoon hours.

I thank Your Honor for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

/s/ Michael T. Moran

Michael T. Moran  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney ID: 251732019

MM/

cc: Kenneth Frank Irek, pro se (via email, certified mail, & regular mail)

**Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se**  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

December 15, 2020

The Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv.  
Mercer County Superior Court  
175 S Broad St., PO Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650-0068  
Email: [Laurie.Conway@NJCourts.gov](mailto:Laurie.Conway@NJCourts.gov)  
Filed via ECourts, Served by Email

Re: KENNETH FRANK IREK  
vs: NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
and  
THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
Docket # MER-L-002022-20  
MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TEMPORARY RESTRAINTS

Dear Judge Hurd:

Please allow this letter to serve as a response to Defendants counsel's, in the above-captioned matter, request for discretionary permission to file a sur-reply to Plaintiff's Reply to their Cross-Motion to dismiss, which was filed yesterday.

R. 1:6-3 (a) authorizes the filing of motions and replies to motions, and that 'No other papers may be filed without leave of court.' Plaintiff's understanding of this section is that the court must retain control of motions and not allow unfettered filing of replies and responses to replies and responses to responses to replies, etc.

Defendants initiated the Cross-Motion and had the opportunity to clearly state their position and support it with existing materials contained in Plaintiff's Verified Complaint and Motion for Injunctive Relief, and proffer their legal conclusions.



GURBIR S. GREWAL  
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
 R.J. Hughes Justice Complex  
 25 Market Street  
 P.O. Box 116  
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
 Attorney for Defendants,  
 New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client  
 Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey

By: Michael T. Moran (251732019)  
 Deputy Attorney General  
 609-376-3377  
 Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov  
 DOL# 20-02764

KENNETH FRANK IREK,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
 CLIENT PROTECTION and THE  
 SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
 LAW DIVISION MERCER COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2022-20

**CIVIL ACTION**

**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court on application of Plaintiff pro se Kenneth Frank Irek ("Irek") for injunctive relief, and Deputy Attorney General Michael T. Moran, appearing on behalf of Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey ("Judiciary Defendants"), having objected to Irek's application for injunctive relief and cross-moving for an Order dismissing the Verified Complaint with prejudice under Rule 4:6-2(a) for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and under Rule 4:6-2(e) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and the Court



**Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se**  
8330 Haskell Ave, Unit 226  
North Hills, CA 91343  
Telephone No. 747-260-8998  
Fax No. 818-533-6237  
E-Mail: info@njdisbarred.com

January 7, 2021

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
MERCER COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
Trial Court Division Manager:  
Attn: Judith Irizarry  
175 S Broad St.  
Trenton, NJ 08608-2401  
609-571-4200

RECEIVED  
JAN 15 2021  
SUPERIOR COURT OF NJ  
MERCER VICINAGE  
CIVIL DIVISION

USPS Priority Mail Tracking Number:  
9405 5036 9930 0227 6286 97

**RE: KENNETH FRANK IREK v.  
NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION  
and  
THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
Docket # MER-L-002022-20  
NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Dear Sir or Madam:


Enclosed please find a copy of the NOTICE OF APPEAL, for the above-captioned matter, that was sent for filing today, via US mail.

Please consider this mailed copy to be service upon:

**JUDITH IRIZARRY,**  
Mercer County Civil Division Manager

Thank You

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth Frank Irek  
Plaintiff, Pro Se





New Jersey Judiciary  
 Superior Court - Appellate Division  
**Notice of Appeal**

Type or clearly print all information. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>(1) Title in Full (As Captioned Below)</b><br/>                 KENNETH FRANK IREK<br/>                 Plaintiff<br/>                 v.<br/>                 NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT<br/>                 PROTECTION and<br/>                 THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY<br/>                 Defendants</p> | <p><b>(2) Attorney/Law Firm/Pro Se Litigant</b><br/>                 Name<br/>                 Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se Plaintiff<br/>                 Street Address<br/>                 8330 Haskell Ave., Apt 226<br/>                 City                                      State      Zip                      Telephone Number<br/>                 North Hills                              CA      91343                      747-260-8998<br/>                 Email Address:<br/>                 kennyirek@gmail.com</p> |
|---|--|

**On Appeal from**

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>(3) Trial Court Judge</b><br/>                 Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv.</p> | <p><b>(4) Trial Court or State Agency</b><br/>                 Superior Court of Mercer County</p> | <p><b>(5) Trial Court or Agency Number</b><br/>                 MER-L-2022-20</p> |
|---|--|---|

Notice is hereby given that **(6)** Kenneth Frank Irek, Plaintiff Pro Se, appeals to the Appellate Division from a **(7)**  Judgment or  Order entered on 12/21/2020, in the (select one)  
 Civil,     Criminal, or     Family Part of the Superior Court                       Tax Court    or from a  
 State Agency decision entered on \_\_\_\_\_.

**(8)** If not appealing the entire judgment, order or agency decision, specify what parts or paragraphs are being appealed.  
 N/A

**(9)** Have all issues, as to all parties in this action, before the trial court or agency been  Yes     No disposed of? (In consolidated actions, all issues as to all parties in all actions must have been disposed of.)  
 If not, has the order been properly certified as final pursuant to R. 4:42-2?                       Yes     No

For criminal, quasi-criminal and juvenile actions only:

**(10A)** Give a concise statement of the offense and the judgment including date entered and any sentence or disposition imposed:

**(10B)** This appeal is from a  conviction     post-judgment motion     post-conviction relief.  
 If post-conviction relief, is it the  1st     2nd     other \_\_\_\_\_  
specify

**(10C)** Is defendant incarcerated?                       Yes     No  
 Was bail granted or the sentence or disposition stayed?     Yes     No

**(10D)** If in custody, name the place of confinement:

Defendant was represented below by:  
 Public Defender     self     private counsel \_\_\_\_\_  
specify

(11) Notice of appeal and attached case information statement have been served where applicable on the following:

|   | Name                                      | Date of Service |
|---|---|-----------------|
| Trial Court Judge   | Hon. Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv.           | 01/07/2021      |
| Trial Court Division Manager  | Judith Irizarry                           | 01/07/2021      |
| Tax Court Administrator   |   |                 |
| State Agency  |   |                 |
| Attorney General or Attorney for other Governmental body pursuant to R. 2:5-1 (a), (d) or (g) | Michael T. Moran, Deputy Attorney General | 01/07/2021      |

Other parties in this action:

| Name and Designation | Attorney Name, Address and Telephone No. | Date of Service |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|
|                      |  |                 |

(12) Attached transcript request form has been served where applicable on the following:

|  | Date of Service |
|--|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appellate Division Transcript Office | 12/23/2020      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of the Tax Court                          |                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency (name)                             |                 |

(13) Exempt from submitting the transcript request form due to the following:

No verbatim record.

Transcript in possession of attorney or pro se litigant (four copies of the transcript must be submitted along with an electronic copy).

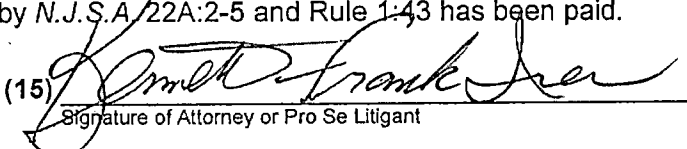
List the date(s) of the trial or hearing:  
December 18, 2020.

Motion for abbreviation of transcript filed with the court or agency below. Attach copy.

Motion for transcript at public expense filed with the court below. Attach copy.

I certify that the foregoing statements are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I also certify that, unless exempt, the filing fee required by N.J.S.A. 22A:2-5 and Rule 1:43 has been paid.

(14) 01/07/2021  
Date

(15)   
Signature of Attorney or Pro Se Litigant



New Jersey Judiciary  
Superior Court - Appellate Division  
**Civil Case Information Statement**

Please type or clearly print all information.

Title in Full (1)

Trial Court or Agency Docket Number (2)

KENNETH FRANK IREK, Plaintiff v.  
NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION and  
THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY, Defendants

MER-L-2022-20

• Attach additional sheets as necessary for any information below.

**(3) Appellant's Attorney** Email Address: [kennyirek@gmail.com](mailto:kennyirek@gmail.com)

Plaintiff  Defendant  Other (Specify)

Name

Kenneth Frank Irek, Pro Se

Client

Kenneth Frank Irek

Street Address

8330 Haskell Ave., Apt 226

City

North Hills

State

CA

Zip

91343

Telephone Number

747-260-8998

**(4) Respondent's Attorney\*** Email Address: [Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov](mailto:Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov)

Name

Michael T. Moran, Deputy Attorney General

Client

NJLFCP and The Supreme Court of New Jersey

Street Address

25 Market Street, PO Box 116, RJ Hughes Justice Compx Trenton

City

State

NJ

Zip

08625

Telephone Number

609-376-3377

\* Indicate which parties, if any, did not participate below or were no longer parties to the action at the time of entry of the judgment or decision being appealed.

**(5) Give Date and Summary of Judgment, Order, or Decision Being Appealed and Attach a Copy:**

On December 21, 2020, an Order was signed by Honorable Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv., of the Superior Court Law Division, Mercer County, Granting Defendants' Cross-Claim to dismiss Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, with prejudice, for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and Granting Defendants' objection to Plaintiff's Motion for Injunctive Relief.

**(6) Are there any claims against any party below, either in this or a consolidated action, which have not been disposed of, including counterclaims, cross-claims, third-party claims and applications for counsel fees?**  Yes  No

If so, has the order been properly certified as final pursuant to R. 4:42-2? (If not, leave to appeal must be sought. R. 2:2-4, 2:5-6)  Yes  No

(If the order has been certified, attach, together with a copy of the order, a copy of the complaint or any other relevant pleadings and a brief explanation as to why the order qualified for certification pursuant to R. 4:42-2.)

Were any claims dismissed without prejudice?  Yes  No

If so, explain and indicate any agreement between the parties concerning future disposition of those claims.

**(7) Is the validity of a statute, regulation, executive order, franchise or constitutional provision of this State being questioned? (R. 2:5-1(g))**  Yes  No

**(8) Give a Brief Statement of the Facts and Procedural History:**

In 1990, Plaintiff, Kenneth Frank Irek, a New Jersey attorney, was the sole owner of a New Jersey corporation that owned a vacant construction lot that was for sale. Irek signed a contract for sale of real estate and a \$5,000 deposit was paid to the corporation towards the purchase price of \$35,000. The closing never took place and the prospective purchasers filed a grievance with the District IX Ethics Committee and a Claim with the NJLFCP for \$5,000, which was paid to them, although Irek did not represent the claimants as an "attorney" or as a "fiduciary". The NJLFCP fraudulently obtained a default judgment for \$5,000 and began collection activities against Irek, who brought an action to declare, void ab initio, the default judgment and other counts related to those facts.// On 11/9/2020, Irek filed a Verified Complaint against the NJLFCP and the Supreme Court of NJ. He then filed a Motion for Injunctive Relief Temporary Restraints. Defendants filed a Cross-Motion to Dismiss Irek's Complaint - Irek filed a Reply - A telephonic oral argument was held. On 12/21/2020, a signed Order dismissed Irek's Complaint

(9) To the extent possible, list the proposed issues to be raised on the appeal as they will be described in appropriate point headings pursuant to R. 2:6-2(a)(6). (Appellant or cross-appellant only.):

POINT I ERROR IN NOT FINDING THE DEFAULT JUDGMENT VOID AB INITIO BECAUSE THE NJLFCP ONLY HAD JURISDICTION OVER LAWYERS ACTING AS AN ATTORNEY OR FIDUCIARY. POINT II ERROR IN NOT DECLARING THE 1993 DISBARMENT ORDER RELIED ON BY THE NJLFCP AS A REQUIREMENT FOR AN ELIGIBLE CLAIM, TO BE VOID AB INITIO FOR LACK OF SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION. POINT III ERROR IN GRANTING DEFENDANTS' CROSS-MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S VERIFIED COMPLAINT BECAUSE THE PLEADINGS CONTAIN UNDISPUTED FACTS SUPPORTING A CAUSE OF ACTION. POINT IV ERROR IN DENYING IREK'S MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO PREVENT IRREPERABLE DAMAGE BY ARREST AND INCARCERATION. POINT V ERROR IN NOT WAITING FOR ANSWER BEFORE DISMISSAL.

(10) If you are appealing from a judgment entered by a trial judge sitting without a jury or from an order of the trial court, complete the following:

- 1. Did the trial judge issue oral findings or an opinion? If so, on what date? \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No
- 2. Did the trial judge issue written findings or an opinion? If so, on what date? \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No
- 3. Will the trial judge be filing a statement or an opinion pursuant to R. 2:5-1(b)?  Yes  No

Caution: Before you indicate that there was neither findings nor an opinion, you should inquire of the trial judge to determine whether findings or an opinion was placed on the record out of counsel's presence or whether the judge will be filing a statement or opinion pursuant to R. 2:5-1(b).

Date of Your Inquiry: 01/01/2021

1. Is there any appeal now pending or about to be brought before this court which:

- (11) (A) Arises from substantially the same case or controversy as this appeal?  Yes  No
- (12) (B) Involves an issue that is substantially the same, similar or related to an issue in this appeal?  Yes  No
- (13) 2. Was there any prior appeal involving this case or controversy?  Yes  No

(14) If the answer to either 1 or 2 above is Yes, state:

Case Name:

Appellate Division Docket Number:

Civil appeals are screened for submission to the Civil Appeals Settlement Program (CASP) to determine their potential for settlement or, in the alternative, a simplification of the issues and any other matters that may aid in the disposition or handling of the appeal. Please consider these when responding to the following question. A negative response will not necessarily rule out the scheduling of a preargument conference.

(15) State whether you think this case may benefit from a CASP conference.  Yes  No

Explain your answer:

This case is not one of disputed facts. The entire record, which began in 1992, consisting of oral testimony and written statements, letters and court documents, were all created and preserved by Defendants. Plaintiff does not dispute any portion of the factual record, which is attached to the Verified Complaint. The issue is simply to apply the appropriate New Jersey law to the existing, undisputed factual record. The Appellate Judges are best suited for that determination.

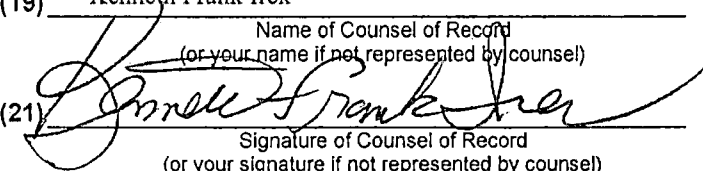
(16) Whether or not an opinion is approved for publication in the official Court Reporter books, the Judiciary posts all Appellate Division opinions on the Internet.

(17) I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).

(18) Kenneth Frank Irek  
Name of Appellant or Respondent

(19) Kenneth Frank Irek  
Name of Counsel of Record  
(or your name if not represented by counsel)

(20) 01/07/2021  
Date

(21)   
Signature of Counsel of Record  
(or your signature if not represented by counsel)

GURBIR S. GREWAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
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Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Attorney for Defendants,  
New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client  
Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey

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Michael.Moran@law.njoag.gov  
DOL# 20-02764

KENNETH FRANK IREK,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR  
CLIENT PROTECTION and THE  
SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION MERCER COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MER-L-2022-20

**CIVIL ACTION**

**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** having been opened to the Court on application of Plaintiff pro se Kenneth Frank Irek ("Irek") for injunctive relief, and Deputy Attorney General Michael T. Moran, appearing on behalf of Defendants New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and Supreme Court of New Jersey ("Judiciary Defendants"), having objected to Irek's application for injunctive relief and cross-moving for an Order dismissing the Verified Complaint with prejudice under Rule 4:6-2(a) for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and under Rule 4:6-2(e) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and the Court





**Form C**



New Jersey Judiciary  
Superior Court-Appellate Division

**Court Transcript Request (R. 2:5-3)**

Transcript order is for:  Non-Appeal → File with: - Select County -

Or  
 Appeal\* → File with: Appellate Division Clerk's Office, Transcript Unit  
Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 968  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0968  
Appeal-Trans.Mailbox@NJCourts.Gov (609) 376-3040

Type of Service: \*See attached cost estimates and transcript ordering instructions.

Standard (30 Days)       Expedited (7 Days)       Daily (Next Business Day)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Plaintiff(s)<br>KENNETH FRANK IREK  | Trial Court Docket/Indictment #<br>MER-L-2022-20 |
| Defendant(s)<br>NEW JERSEY LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION and<br>THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY | County/Court<br>MERCER COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT     |

Requesting Party  Attorney (For non-appeals only)       Self-Represented Litigant

|                                      |  |                              |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Name<br>KENNETH FRANK IREK           | Email Address<br>kennyirek@gmail.com       | Phone Number<br>747-260-8998 |
| Address<br>8330 HASKELL AVE, APT 226 | Name of Law firm (if applicable)<br>Pro Se |                              |
| City<br>NORTH HILLS                  | State<br>CA                                | Zip<br>91343                 |

| Date(s) of Proceeding | Type(s) of Proceeding (e.g. trial, sentencing, motion, etc.) | Name of Judge(s)           |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 12/18/2020            | Motion, with oral argument                                   | Douglas H. Hurd, P. J. Cv. |
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\*NOTE: Attorneys may only use this paper form for non-appeal transcript requests. To order transcripts for appeal (for example, transcripts not already in attorney possession), attorneys must complete a system-generated transcript request form through the eCourts Appellate system. See Notice to the Bar, *Mandatory Appellate Division Electronic Filing for All Case Types* (September 26, 2017).

*Kenneth Frank Irek*      12/23/2020  
Signature of Requesting Party      Date

You may request a particular transcript agency if the transcript was not previously ordered and prepared. Submit your deposit for transcript(s) directly to the transcription agency or court reporter who will be preparing your transcript(s).