

Private Admonition -- Board Case No. 1014. Date of Sanction: March 28, 1988. Lawyer represented client in Family Court marital property division. Lawyer failed to prepare in a timely fashion with the thoroughness reasonably necessary for the representation, in violation of **DLRPC 1.1**. Lawyer also failed to promptly comply with client's reasonable requests for information and keep client reasonably informed about client's former spouse's settlement offer, in violation of **DLRPC 1.4(a)**. Upon termination of the representation, Lawyer failed to make a timely refund of the unearned portion of the retainer paid, in violation of **DLRPC 1.16(d)**. The Board ruled that "[i]n order for [Lawyer] to become obligated to return the unearned retainer amount, it was not necessary for [the] client or disciplinary counsel to give [Lawyer] actual notice of [Lawyer's] duty to render an accounting for the value of ... services rendered."