[J-4 of 1999] IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL,	: No. 136 Disciplinary Docket No. 3
Petitioner	
ν.	: Disciplinary Board No. 114 DB 95
v.	
ERNEST D. PREATE, JR., Respondent	Attorney Registration No. 08433 (Lackawanna County)
	: Argued: February 1, 1999

<u>ORDER</u>

PER CURIAM:

DECIDED: June 23, 1999

Upon consideration of the Report and Recommendations of the Disciplinary Board dated July 14, 1998, and following oral argument, it is hereby

ORDERED that Ernest D. Preate, Jr., be and he is suspended from the Bar of this Commonwealth for a period of five years retroactive to August 16, 1995, and he shall comply with all the provisions of Rule 217, Pa.R.D.E. It is further ORDERED that respondent shall pay costs to the Disciplinary board pursuant to Rule 208(g), Pa.R.D.E.

Mr. Justice Nigro files a dissenting statement in which Mr. Justice Zappala

joins.