

## SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

Case No. S01Y0761

Atlanta April 30, 2001

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

## IN THE MATTER OF WILLIAM H. MOORE, JR.

This disciplinary matter is before the Court on Respondent William H. Moore Jr.'s Petition for Voluntary Discipline, filed pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (b), prior to the issuance of a Formal Complaint. Moore seeks the imposition of a Review Panel reprimand, as defined by Bar Rule 4-102 (b) (4), for his admitted violation of Standard 24 (a lawyer shall not aid a nonlawyer in the unauthorized practice of law) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d). Although the violation may be punished by a public reprimand, the State Bar recommends that the Court accept Moore's petition.

In his petition, Moore admits that, in 1997, he assumed responsibility for the files of another attorney in the Savannah area, approximately seventy-five percent of which consisted of personal injury cases. Moore allowed a nonlawyer former employee of the other attorney to occupy unused space in Moore's office and to handle a number of the files with little or no supervision. Without Moore's knowledge, authority, or supervision, the employee negotiated and settled a personal injury claim for the grievant in this disciplinary matter and disbursed the proceeds. Moore admits that he failed to properly supervise the employee's activities and that as a result of that failure, the employee engaged in conduct that involved the unauthorized practice of law.

We have reviewed the record and agree with the State Bar that a Review Panel reprimand is the appropriate sanction in this case. We note in mitigation of discipline that Moore has no prior attorney discipline and has stated that he is truly sorry for his actions. Accordingly, it hereby is ordered that, for his violation of Standard 24 of Bar Rule 4-102 (d), William H. Moore, Jr. be administered a Review Panel reprimand pursuant to Bar Rules 4-102 (b) (4) and 4-220 (b).



## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I hereby certify that the above is a true extract from The minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia

m W Hinchemer

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto Affixed the day and year last above written.

, Chief Deputy Clerk