



**Supreme Court of Georgia**  
Case No. S96Y1843

Atlanta, **OCT 04 1996**

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

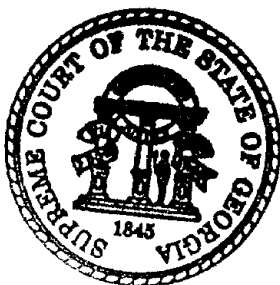
**IN THE MATTER OF: WILLIAM N. ROBBINS.**

This case involves the proper level of discipline to give William N. Robbins for violating Standard 5 (b) of Bar Rule 4-102. Following the recommendations of the special master and the Review Panel, we order an Investigative Panel Reprimand.

On January 11, 1996, the State Bar issued a formal complaint against Robbins alleging that he violated Standards 4, 5 and 8 of Bar Rule 4-102 by distributing a brochure about his firm that contained a discussion of contingent fees without making the disclosure required by Standard 5 (b). The conduct underlying Robbins' petition constitutes his third disciplinary infraction under the Bar Rules. This Court recently ordered Robbins to receive a public reprimand for violating Standard 18 of Bar Rule 4-102. In the Matter of Robbins, 266 Ga. 681 (1996). In 1988, Robbins received a Review Panel reprimand for violating Standard 5 of Bar Rule 4-102 ("A lawyer shall not make any false, fraudulent or misleading communication about the lawyer or the lawyer's services.").

On April 24, 1996, Robbins filed a petition for voluntary discipline offering to accept an Investigative Panel Reprimand. The State Bar requested that his petition be rejected because it did not contain admissions of fact and conduct. Robbins then filed a second petition in which he admitted that his office disseminated a firm brochure that discussed contingent fees without including the mandatory disclosure language of Standard 5 (b) of Bar Rule 4-102. As mitigating evidence, Robbins states he regrets violating Standard 5 (b), has since complied with the requirements of Standard 5 (b) in distributing firm materials, and has taken steps to assure future compliance. In his second petition Robbins again offered to accept an Investigative Panel Reprimand. The State Bar does not object to Robbins' Second Petition for Voluntary Discipline.

The special master accepted Robbins' second petition and recommended he receive an Investigative Panel Reprimand. The Review Panel adopted the special master's findings of fact and conclusions of law and recommended that Robbins receive an Investigative Panel Reprimand. We have reviewed the record and accept the Review Panel's recommendation that William N. Robbins receive an Investigative Panel Reprimand.



**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA**  
Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the  
Minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

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

*Lynne M. Stuckey* Chief Deputy Clerk