



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA  
Case No. S00Y0280

Atlanta

MAR 03 2000

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

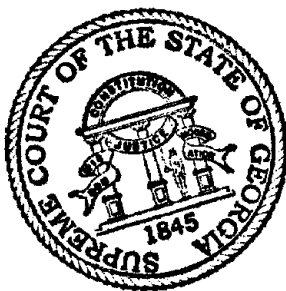
The following order was passed:

### IN THE MATTER OF HARRY L. TRAUFFER

This disciplinary proceeding is before the Court on Respondent Harry L. Trauffer's Petition for Voluntary Discipline, which he filed pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (c) after the issuance of a Formal Complaint and the appointment of a special master. In his petition, Trauffer admits to having violated Standards 31 (d) (1) (contingent fee agreement shall be in writing); 65 (A) (lawyer shall not commingle his client's funds with his own and shall not fail to account for trust property, including money and interest paid on the client's money, if any, held in any fiduciary capacity); and 65.2 (a) (lawyer shall designate all trust accounts, whether general or specific, as well as all deposit slips and checks drawn thereon, as either an "Attorney Trust Account," "Attorney Escrow Account," or "Attorney Fiduciary Account") of Bar Rule 4-102 (d), and asks this Court to accept his petition and impose a Review Panel reprimand. The State Bar recommends the Court accept Trauffer's petition, as does the special master, who accepts Trauffer's admissions of fact and conduct as well as the mitigating factors set forth in his petition. Having reviewed the record in this case, we agree that under the circumstances, a Review Panel reprimand is the appropriate sanction.

Trauffer admits that he violated the standards by not reducing to writing a contingency fee agreement with a client; by paying the client from his attorney trust account out of his personal funds on deposit in the trust account; and by designating the trust account as a "Deposit Account." In mitigation of his conduct, Trauffer asserts that he has cooperated with the disciplinary authorities; has had no prior discipline; had no dishonest or selfish motive; and is remorseful for his behavior.

Accordingly, it is hereby ordered that the Review Panel administer a Review Panel reprimand at its next meeting declaring Trauffer's conduct to be improper. Bar Rule 4-102 (b) (4).



**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

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

 , Chief Deputy Clerk