



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA  
Case No. S01Y0261

Atlanta NOV 30 2000

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

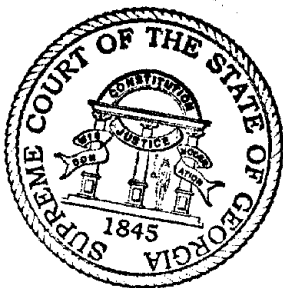
The following order was passed:

IN THE MATTER OF JAMES LUTHER LESTER.

This disciplinary matter is before the Court on the special master's report in which he recommends accepting Respondent James Luther Lester's Petition for Voluntary Discipline filed pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (c) after the issuance of a Formal Complaint in which the State Bar alleged Lester violated Standards 28 (lawyer shall not reveal the confidences and secrets of a client); 35 (lawyer shall decline proffered employment if the exercise of his independent professional judgment on behalf of a client will be or is likely to be adversely affected by his representation of another client); 48 (lawyer shall not give advice to a person who is not represented by a lawyer if the interests of such person are or have a reasonable possibility of being in conflict with the interests of his client); and 69 (lawyer shall not represent a client whose interests are adverse to the interests of a former client in any matter substantially related to the matter in which the lawyer represented the former client without written consent after full disclosure) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d). In his petition, Lester admits he violated Standard 69, and requests the imposition of an Investigative Panel reprimand. The State Bar also recommends that the Court accept the petition.

Lester admits that he represented the mortgage company seeking to foreclose on the home of a former client whom Lester had represented in a divorce, pursuant to which final decree the former client was awarded the home to be foreclosed on. He admits that his conduct violated Standard 69, but proffers in mitigation that he has no prior disciplinary record and has cooperated with the disciplinary authorities; that he accepts responsibility for his conduct and expresses deep remorse; and that his firm has instituted client intake procedures to protect against multiple representation of clients with conflicting interests and representation of clients adverse to the interests of former clients in the same or substantially related matters. We accept the mitigating factors and agree that an Investigative Panel reprimand is the appropriate sanction in this case.


Accordingly, it hereby is ordered that for his violation of Standard 69 of Bar Rule 4-102 (d) James Luther Lester receive an Investigative Panel reprimand pursuant to Bar Rules 4-102 (b) (5) and 4-205 through 4-208, to be administered before the Panel by the Chairperson or his or her designee.



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