

SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA Case No. **S01Y0417**

Atlanta | AN U.5 2001

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

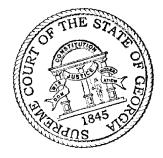
IN THE MATTER OF JEFFREY ROTHMAN

This matter is before the Court on the special master's report in which he recommends accepting Respondent Jeffrey Rothman'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 Rothman violated Standard 25 (lawyer shall not practice in a jurisdiction where to do so would be in violation of regulations of the profession in that jurisdiction) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d), which may be punished by a public reprimand. The complaint was based on the fact that Rothman acknowledged service of a Notice of Investigation of a grievance, but failed to file a sworn response within 30 days. Accordingly, Rothman was suspended from practice by order of this Court dated April 23, 1998, but continued to appear on behalf of clients until May 1998. The suspension was lifted on June 2, 1998. Rothman contended he did not receive the suspension order and thus was not aware that he was suspended, but that once he found out in May 1998, he did not make any further appearances for clients or have any contact with them until his suspension was lifted. The Investigative Panel subsequently dismissed the grievance upon which the suspension was based.

Although Rothman does not admit any conduct in violation of the Bar Rules, he admits that he could benefit from a firm assessment conducted by the Law Practice Management Program of the State Bar (the "LPMP"). In that regard, he agrees to undergo a full assessment, to waive confidentiality, and to direct the LPMP to deliver a copy of its report to the Office of the General Counsel. Rothman also agrees that within six months of receiving his report from the LPMP, he will provide the Office of the General Counsel with a detailed memo listing the suggestions his firm has implemented and, if he does not implement a particular recommended change, he will explain his reasons for not doing so.

We agree with the State Bar and the special master that Rothman's petition should be accepted because (1) he has taken responsibility for improving the way he runs his law firm and this will result in better service to his clients; (2) his willingness to undergo an assessment and to share the results with the Office of the General Counsel suggests that he is serious about practicing law more efficiently; and (3) his proposed resolution addresses the cause of this proceeding and offers a remedy tailored to avoid similar problems in the future.

Accordingly, it hereby is ordered that Jeffrey Rothman's Petition for Voluntary Discipline be accepted and that he undertake the steps outlined above within six months from the date of this order.



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.

Lyn Matinich comb, Chief Deputy Clerk