



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
Case No. S06Y1436

Atlanta July 13, 2006

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.
The following order was passed:

IN THE MATTER OF MICHAEL J. DAVIS

This matter is before the Court on Respondent Michael J. Davis' Petition for Voluntary Discipline in which he admits to violating Rules 1.3 and 1.4 of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct, see Bar Rule 4-102 (d), and requests imposition of a Review Panel reprimand. The matter began with the filing of a Notice of Discipline in which the State Bar recommended a 90-day suspension, which Davis rejected in accordance with the Bar Rules and asked for reconsideration. On reconsideration the Investigative Panel recommended a Review Panel reprimand, the same level of discipline Davis has requested. The State Bar recommends that the Court accept the petition as being in the best interests of the public and the Bar.

In his petition Davis admits that in one case he was hired to represent a client to investigate a habeas corpus petition and was paid \$1,500. He investigated the matter but did not file a petition and did not respond to his client's requests to visit her at the prison, nor did he adequately communicate with her that he was not retained to file a habeas petition without further payment. In the second case Davis admits that he was hired by a client to investigate and file a habeas petition and was paid \$2,500. He filed the petition but because it was not verified the petition was dismissed. Davis did not file a response or corrected petition after receiving the motion to dismiss and failed to communicate with his client to obtain the verification.

Davis admits that his conduct violated Rule 1.3, which is punishable by disbarment, and Rule 1.4, which is punishable by a public reprimand, but given the

mitigating circumstances that Davis cooperated with disciplinary authorities, experienced serious personal problems that interfered with his ability to represent clients, and is remorseful for having violated the disciplinary rules, the appropriate sanction in this matter is that proposed by Davis. Accordingly, it hereby is ordered that Michael J. Davis be administered a Review Panel reprimand pursuant to Bar Rules 4-102 (b) (4) and 4-220 (b); that he attend the State Bar's Ethics Class at his own expense, that he submit to and comply with an evaluation by the Law Practice Management section of the State Bar, and that he complete restitution to his clients as set forth in his petition for voluntary discipline.



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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen M. Hutchinson".

, Chief Deputy Clerk