



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
Case No. S08Y0738

Atlanta March 31, 2008

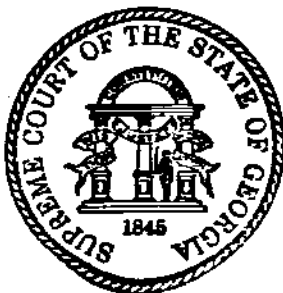
The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.
The following order was passed:

IN THE MATTER OF R. JAMES BABSON, JR.

In this disciplinary matter Respondent R. James Babson, Jr. filed a Petition for Voluntary discipline prior to the filing of a Formal Complaint. In it, he admits violating Rules 1.4, 1.16 (d), and 9.3 of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct and seeks imposition of a Review Panel reprimand. See Bar Rule 4-102 (d). The facts show that Babson represented a client in a workers' compensation case and failed to respond to his client's telephone calls. After the client discharged Babson, Babson at first refused to surrender the client's files until the client paid for copying and mailing. Babson later agreed to surrender the files without payment of these costs but did not deliver the files to the client's new attorney until July 2007 after the grievance was filed in this case. Moreover, Babson failed to respond to the Notice of Investigation. In mitigation of his conduct, Babson avers that he has cooperated with the State Bar in resolving this matter, and the State Bar recommends the Court accept the petition.

The Court concludes that Babson's conduct violated the rules set forth above, each of which may be punished by a public reprimand. The Court also concludes, however, that in light of Babson's cooperation and admission of his wrongdoing, a Review Panel reprimand is the appropriate sanction. Therefore, the Court accepts Babson's petition and hereby orders that he receive a Review Panel reprimand pursuant to 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