



**SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA**

Case No. S00Y0272.

Atlanta **JAN 18 2000**

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

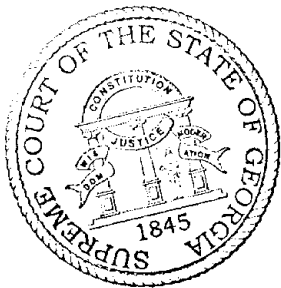
The following order was passed:

**IN THE MATTER OF MATTHEW JOHN REUBENS**

Pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (b) (2) and prior to the issuance of a formal complaint, Respondent Matthew John Reubens filed a Petition for Voluntary Discipline in which he admitted having violated Standard 32 (while representing a client in connection with contemplated or pending litigation, a lawyer shall not advance or guarantee financial assistance to his client, except for expenses of litigation) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d) and sought imposition of a public reprimand. The State Bar has recommended that this Court accept Reubens' petition.

In his petition, Reubens admits having loaned a client money on three different occasions during his representation of the client in a workers' compensation and personal injury case; that the loans were to be repaid, at least in part, from any proceeds recovered from the case; and that, although he provided a detailed accounting to the client of case settlement disbursements, his conduct violated Standard 32 of Bar Rule 4-102 (d). In mitigation of discipline, we note that Reubens has no prior disciplinary record; loaned the money without any selfish motive; has cooperated fully with disciplinary authorities; has acknowledged that his behavior was unethical; and has expressed remorse for that behavior. We have reviewed the record and agree with the State Bar that a public reprimand is the appropriate sanction under the circumstances.

Accordingly, Reubens' petition for voluntary discipline is accepted and it is hereby ordered that for his violation of Standard 32 of Bar Rule 4-102 (d) Respondent Matthew John Reubens be administered a public reprimand in open court pursuant to Bar Rules 4-102 (b) (3) and 4-220 (c) by a judge of the superior court where Reubens resides or where his disciplinary infraction occurred.



**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, likely belonging to the Chief Deputy Clerk, is written over a horizontal line.

—, Chief Deputy Clerk