



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
Case No. S05Y0835

Atlanta March 28, 2005

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

IN THE MATTER OF LYSANDER A. WOODS.

This disciplinary matter is before the Court pursuant to the Second Report and Recommendation of a special master who recommends accepting Respondent Lysander A. Woods' amended petition for voluntary discipline which he filed pursuant to Bar Rule 4-227 (c) after the issuance of a Formal Complaint and in which he admitted violating Standard 65 (A) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d). Based on Woods' admissions and taking into account certain mitigating factors present in this case, the State Bar and the special master recommend that Woods receive a Review Panel reprimand. We agree.

After a review of the petition, we find that Woods, who has been a member of the Bar since 1996, admits that, through his efforts, his client obtained a significant sum of money by check; that Woods deposited the check into his trust account and then negotiated a fee with his client for the work performed, taking into account the contingent nature of the work; that he then failed promptly to move the agreed-upon fees from his trust account to his operating account, thereby commingling his client's funds with his own for a short time in violation of Standard 65 (A) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d). Although a violation of Standard 65 may be punished by disbarment, we find in mitigation that Woods has no prior disciplinary history; that he cooperated in the disciplinary proceedings; that he was, at the time, inexperienced in the practice of law, having only been licensed for two years; that he has agreed to refund his fee; and that his wrongful behavior appears to be an isolated incident. Thus, we agree with the State Bar and

S05Y0835

Page 2

the special master that a Review Panel reprimand is the appropriate sanction in this case. Accordingly, it is hereby ordered that for his admitted violation of Standard 65 (A) of Bar Rule 4-102 (d), Lysander A. Woods be administered a Review Panel reprimand pursuant to Bar Rule 4-102 (b) (4) and 4-220 (b). We retain jurisdiction over this case until Woods completes the repayment of his fee pursuant to his agreement with his client.



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.

Lynne M. Stinchcomb, Chief Deputy Clerk