

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on the 4th of October, 2001, the following order was made and entered:

Lawyer Disciplinary Board, Complainant

vs.) No. 28465

Ernest F. Hays, a member of The West
Virginia State Bar, Respondent

On a former day, to-wit, August 22, 2001, came the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board, by Nancy C. Hill, its chairperson, pursuant to Rule 3.10 of the Rules of Lawyer Disciplinary Procedure, and presented to the Court its *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommended Disposition* in the above-captioned proceeding, stipulated by the parties, recommending that the respondent, Ernest F. Hays, receive a public reprimand for violating Rule 8.4 of the Rules of Professional Conduct and that he reimburse the Lawyer Disciplinary Board for the costs and expenses incurred in the investigation of this matter.

Upon consideration whereof, the Court is of opinion to and doth hereby adopt the recommendation of the Hearing Panel Subcommittee of the Lawyer Disciplinary Board. It is therefore ordered that the respondent, Ernest F. Hays, be, and he hereby is, publicly reprimanded for violating Rule 8.4 of the Rules of Professional Conduct. It is further ordered that the respondent reimburse the Lawyer Disciplinary Board for the costs and expenses incurred in the investigation of this matter. Chief Justice McGraw would admonish.

Service of an attested copy of this order upon the parties herein shall constitute sufficient notice of the contents.

A True Copy

Attest:


Clerk, Supreme Court of Appeals