

Syphen Ulbanund

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY D-18 September Term 1992

IN THE MATTER OF

JAMES F. HOUSTON,

CORRECTED ORDER

AN ATTORNEY AT LAW

The Disciplinary Review Board having filed a report with the Court recommending that JAMES F. HOUSTON of KEYPORT, who was admitted to the bar of this State in 1969, be disbarred for the knowing misappropriation of client funds by the advancing of legal fees to himself in real estate matters before the fees were due him at the closing of title, thereby invading other client funds, and the Court having found on its independent review of the record clear and convincing evidence that respondent knowingly misappropriated funds, and good cause appearing;

It is ORDERED that JAMES F. HOUSTON be disbarred and that his name be stricken from the roll of attorneys of this State, effective October 27, 1992; and it is further

ORDERED that JAMES F. HOUSTON be and hereby—is permanently restrained and enjoined from practicing law; and it is further

ORDERED that all funds, if any, currently existing in any New Jersey financial institution maintained by JAMES F. HOUSTON pursuant to Rule 1:21-6, shall be restrained from disbursement except on application to this Court, for good cause shown, and shall be transferred by the financial institution to the Clerk of the Superior Court who is directed to deposit the funds in the Superior Court Trust Fund, pending further Order of this Court; and it is further

ORDERED that JAMES F. HOUSTON comply with Administrative Guideline No. 23 of the Office of Attorney Ethics dealing with disbarred attorneys; and it is further

ORDERED that JAMES F. HOUSTON reimburse the Ethics_Financial Committee for appropriate administrative costs.

WITNESS, the Honorable Robert N. Wilentz, Chief Justice, at Trenton, this 14th day of October, 1992.

Stephen Supreme Court

Chief Justice Wilentz and Justices Clifford, Handler and Pollock join in this Order. Justices O'Hern, Garibaldi, and Stein have filed a separate dissent.