



## SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

**FILED**

Administrative Minutes  
June 21, 2021

Thérèse S. Barnes

Clerk/Court Executive

SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

*Thérèse S. Barnes*

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

### IN RE: MOTION TO AMEND 2021-3.

The State Bar of Georgia has moved to amend Rule 1.2 of the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct to permit Georgia lawyers to counsel clients to engage in conduct that the lawyer knows is criminal or fraudulent, and to assist clients in such conduct, so long as the conduct is not a crime under Georgia law. The motion explains the proposed amendment arises from the desire of some Georgia lawyers to counsel clients to engage in conduct regarding the growth, manufacture, and sale of low-THC oil purportedly permitted under Georgia law although still constituting a crime under federal law. The motion also acknowledges that the proposed amendment is not limited to conduct related to low-THC oil; indeed, the proposed amendment is quite broad and might well apply to a wide range of conduct constituting a crime under federal law that simply has no corollary state criminal sanctions.

The Court understands the desire of some Georgia lawyers to assist Georgia's fledgling cannabis industry. But this Court has long prohibited Georgia lawyers from counseling and assisting clients in

the commission of criminal acts. The passage of a Georgia statute purporting to permit and regulate conduct that constitutes federal crimes does not change that long-standing principle. The motion is DENIED.

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA**  
Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I 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.

 , Clerk