



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JANE J. BUFFALOE, BPR #002891
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November 27, 2001

LAW LICENSE OF NASHVILLE ATTORNEY SUSPENDED

On November 20, 2001, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an Order suspending the law license of Jane J. Buffaloe for a period of three years.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a petition for discipline against Buffaloe alleging that Buffaloe represented a client on collections, litigation and forfeitures, and was responsible for collecting funds, maintaining records, and timely remitting collected funds to this client. Buffaloe misrepresented to this client the activity and status of a case. The client demanded Buffaloe return client files. Buffaloe initially made no response to the client's request for the return of files but then provided the client with a partial list of active accounts with ledger balances and payment histories. Buffaloe's client, at its own expense, then hired a computer programmer to extract the client's account information from Buffaloe's computer system. The client subsequently learned that Buffaloe had received funds which Buffaloe had failed to remit to the client. Buffaloe was temporarily suspended by the Supreme Court of Tennessee for misappropriation of this client's funds on February 10, 2000. Buffaloe remained temporarily suspended until she was reinstated with conditions on December 11, 2000. The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a petition for discipline against Buffaloe for her misappropriation of this client's funds and for Buffaloe's appearance in court while suspended. Buffaloe has made restitution to her client.

The Board of Professional Responsibility also filed another petition for discipline against Buffaloe, based upon a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Order finding Buffaloe in willful contempt of court. In this bankruptcy case, Buffaloe failed to appear for a December 9, 1999 show cause hearing on behalf of her client. The U.S. Bankruptcy Court found Buffaloe in willful contempt of the court's order to appear and show cause as to why an announced agreed order had not been submitted to the court.

Buffaloe through counsel filed answers to the petitions for discipline and submitted a conditional guilty plea to the charges. Buffaloe's guilty plea was approved by a hearing panel, the Board of Professional Responsibility and the Supreme Court.

The Supreme court of Tennessee's November 20, 2001 Order suspended Buffaloe for a period of three years, with credit for Buffaloe's ten month temporary suspension previously served February 10, 2000 through December 11, 2000. Buffaloe may, after serving her three years suspension, apply for reinstatement of her law license. To be reinstated to the practice of law, Buffaloe must show by clear and convincing evidence that her reinstatement would not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the bar and the administration of justice or subversive to the public's interest.

SG:mw

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