



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

LANCE B. BRACY
CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

LAURA L. CHASTAIN
DEPUTY CHIEF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

BEVERLY P. SHARPE
CONSUMER COUNSEL/DIRECTOR

1101 KERMIT DRIVE, SUITE 730
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37217
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FAX: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbdr.org

WILLIAM W. HUNT, III
CHARLES A. HIGH
SANDY GARRETT
JESSE D. JOSEPH
JAMES A. VICK
THERESA M. COSTONIS
DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: DEBRA FANNIN HILL, BPR #15493
CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

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LAW LICENSE OF OAK RIDGE ATTORNEY SUSPENDED

On August 25, 2003, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending the law license of Debra Fannin Hill for a period of seventy-five days and placing Hill on probation for a period of eleven months and twenty-nine days.

Hill was suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court based upon a petition for discipline the Board of Professional Responsibility filed against Hill. A hearing committee hearing the formal charges found Hill engaged in misrepresentations and deceit regarding a client's case. Further, the hearing panel found that Hill's handling of a client's settlement violated trust accounting rules. The hearing panel recommended that Hill receive a seventy-five day suspension and probation for a period of eleven months and twenty-nine days, to be served concurrently with the proposed seventy-five day suspension. If any finding by a court, the Board of Professional Responsibility or any hearing panel is made during Hill's probationary period that Hill has violated a disciplinary rule subsequent to the entry of the Supreme Court's August 25, 2003 order, then Hill's probation shall be immediately revoked and Hill shall be suspended from the practice of law for the entire period of eleven months and twenty-nine days. Hill appealed the hearing panel's judgment but then later voluntarily dismissed her appeal.

Hill shall not use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant or law clerk, nor maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted during Hill's seventy-five day suspension. Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Hill to notify all clients that are being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's order suspending her. Section 18 of Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court also requires Hill to deliver to her clients all papers or property to which they are entitled.

SG:mw
Hill 1056 rel.doc

