IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

AUG 2 8 2007

Clerk of the Courts

IN RE: SHERMAN AMES, III; BPR #007163

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee (Knox County)

B.O.P.R. Docket No. <u>2001-1271-2-TH</u> No. <u>M</u>2007-01950-5C-BPO-BP

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed by Disciplinary Counsel against Respondent, Sherman Ames, III, on November 29, 2001; upon Answer to the Petition for Discipline filed by Respondent on February 8, 2002; upon reference to and a hearing before a Hearing Panel of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court on December 14 and 15, 2004; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered on January 5, 2005; upon a Writ of Certiorari to the Knox County Chancery Court filed by Respondent on March 29, 2005; upon a hearing before Special Judge Jon Kerry Blackwood, sitting by designation, on the record and on the briefs of the respective parties; upon the Memorandum Opinion of Special Judge Jon Kerry Blackwood affirming the Judgment of the Hearing Panel; upon Respondent's filing of an appeal to this Court and this Court's dismissal of Respondent's appeal on February 23, 2007 for failure of Respondent to file a brief; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court accepts the Judgment of the Hearing Committee, as affirmed by Special Judge Jon Kerry Blackwood, and adopts the Judgment of the Hearing Committee as the Court's Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT:

- 1. That Respondent's law license be and is hereby suspended for six (6) months pursuant to Rule 9, § 4.2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court; and
- 2. That at the conclusion of the six (6) month suspension, the Respondent's law license shall further be suspended for an indefinite period of time until Respondent files an affidavit, acceptable to the Board of Professional Responsibility, which evidences that Respondent has fully complied with the following conditions:
 - (i). Respondent's completion of an ethics seminar acceptable to the Board of Professional Responsibility upon the generally acceptable trust accounting principles as set forth in the *Tennessee Rules of*

Professional Conduct; and

- (ii). Respondent's payment of the sum of \$9,541.97 to his former client's widow, Jimmye Lou Smith, for the excessive fees Respondent received from the Frank Smith workers' compensation settlement; and
- (iii). Respondent's accounting to Disciplinary Counsel that the missing trust account funds of the Frank Smith workers' compensation settlement in the sum of \$2,779.50 were paid to Respondent's client, Frank Smith; provided, however, that if Respondent fails to account for the payment of said funds to Frank Smith, Respondent shall pay to Frank Smith's widow, Jimmye Lou Smith, the sum of \$2779.50.
- 3. That pursuant to Rule 9, § 24.3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Respondent shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the sum of \$11,590.00, plus any additional costs assessed by the Clerk of this Court in this cause, for all of which execution shall issue if necessary; and
- 4. That the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court cause notice of this suspension to be published as required by Rule 9, § 18.10 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.

Entered this at day of <u>Aug.</u>, 2007.

FOR THE COURT:

JANICE M. HOLDER, JUSTICE