

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
SHERMAN AMES, III, BPR #7163
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

February 17, 2012

## **BRADLEY COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On February 14, 2012, Sherman Ames, III, of Cleveland, Tennessee, was suspended by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for six months, with credit for the twenty-one day period of time from the termination of disability inactive status on November 8, 2011 until the hearing of his case on November 29, 2011. He must also pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs in this matter.

On November 30, 2009, the Board filed a Petition for Discipline alleging that Mr. Ames was engaging in the unauthorized practice of law based upon complaints from the Washington Attorney General's office and an investigator for the unauthorized practice of law unit in Montana. Mr. Ames is not licensed to practice law in Washington or Montana. Further, Mr. Ames was practicing law during a period when he was suspended in Tennessee, thus having no license at all. He was practicing by signing settlement documents, by using letterhead stating he was an attorney with addresses in Montana, and by using a bank account in the name of his solo practice.

His actions violate the following Rules of Professional Conduct: 4.1(a), Truth and Candor in Statements to Others; 5.5(a), Unauthorized Practice of Law; 5.7, Responsibilities Regarding Law Related Services; 7.1(a), Communications Concerning a Lawyer's Services; 7.5(a), Firm Names and Letterheads; and 8.4(a) and (c), Misconduct.

Mr. Ames must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 regarding the responsibilities of suspended lawyers.

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## PLEASE NOTE

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