



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: DEREK A. ARTRIP, BPR# 26784**  
**CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

May 9, 2013

**MURFREESBORO LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On May 9, 2013, Derek A. Artrip, formerly of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year by the Tennessee Supreme Court. He was also ordered to participate with the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program. Further, Mr. Artrip is required to engage a practice monitor for one (1) year upon reinstatement. On July 14, 2012, Mr. Artrip was temporarily suspended for failure to respond to disciplinary complaints. Although he sought reinstatement, Mr. Artrip failed to meet the conditions of reinstatement and, therefore, he has remained suspended since that time.

On August 15, 2012, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. Artrip containing three (3) complaints of disciplinary misconduct. A Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Artrip failed to exercise reasonable diligence and he failed to adequately communicate with his clients. In one case, the client terminated representation due to lack of communication. Mr. Artrip never took steps to withdraw from the representation until the Board complaint was initiated, but he has now withdrawn. Mr. Artrip failed to submit a final order to the court in an adoption matter despite promising to do so. In all three cases, Mr. Artrip failed to act with appropriate diligence in the representation of these clients.

Mr. Artrip's actions violate the following Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.1, Competence; 1.3 Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.16(d), Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.2 Expediting Litigation; 8.1(b), Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a) and (d), Misconduct.

Mr. Artrip must comply with Sections 18 and 19 of Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Artrip 2148-4 rel.doc

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