



**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 Artrip never took steps to withdraw from the representation until the Board complaint was initiated, but he has now withdrawn.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

PLEASE NOTE

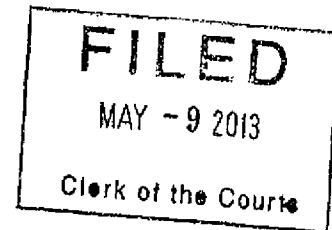
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE DEREK A. ARTRIP, BPR# 26784
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Ona, West Virginia)

No. M2012-01410-SC-BPR-BP
BOPR No. 2012-2148-4-KH



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Derek A. Artrip, on August 16, 2013; upon the Board's Motion for Default Judgment and that Allegations Contained in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed on November 26, 2012; upon the Order of Default Judgment entered January 24, 2013; upon the Hearing Panel Judgment entered February 20, 2013; upon service of the Judgment by the Executive Secretary for the Board on February 20, 2013; upon consideration and approval of the Board on March 8, 2013; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Judgment of the Hearing Panel and adopts Judgment of the Hearing Panel as the Court's Order.

It is, therefore, ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2, Derek A. Artrip is suspended for one year.

(2) Further, Mr. Artrip shall be required to continue to meet the conditions that have previously been imposed by the Order of Temporary Suspension. Specifically, he shall be required to participate with the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program. If TLAP determines that a monitoring agreement is appropriate, he shall comply with the terms and conditions of the TLAP monitoring agreement.

(3) Further, Mr. Artrip shall be required to engage a practice monitor for one (1) year upon reinstatement.

(4) Additionally, Respondent shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18 and 19 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. Respondent must meet all CLE requirements and all registration requirements prior to reinstatement.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry. Upon the taking effect of this order, and except as otherwise indicated, the orders entered July 13, 2012, and August 16, 2012, shall be set aside and have no further effect.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Mr. Artrip shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$567.50 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(7) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark
CORNELIA A. CLARK, JUSTICE