



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220  
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027  
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500  
(800) 486-5714  
FAX: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

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

November 19, 2013

**MURFREESBORO LAWYER DISBARRED**

On November 14, 2013, Derek A. Artrip, formerly of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, was disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court. 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 on suspension since that time.

The Board filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Artrip based upon two (2) complaints of misconduct for abandonment of practice and neglect of client matters. In the first complaint, Mr. Artrip was hired to represent a client in a child custody matter. Mr. Artrip failed to adequately communicate with his client during the representation regarding the status of her case and the use of her retainer fee. In early 2012, Mr. Artrip promised to have the matter heard by a court within thirty days but he failed to do so. In the second complaint, Mr. Artrip neglected a client matter and abandoned his law practice. He failed to return the client's file or to provide any information about the status of the matter. Mr. Artrip did not respond to the Petition for Discipline and did not appear for the final hearing, despite having notice of both.

Mr. Artrip's ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5, Fees; 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 disbarred attorneys.

Artrip 2210-0 rel.doc

**PLEASE NOTE**

**YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE INFORMATIONAL RELEASES, FORMAL ETHICS OPINIONS, NEWSLETTERS AND ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY BY SIGNING IN AT THE BOARD'S WEBSITE**

**[www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions](http://www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions)**