

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JASON WADE BARNETTE, BPR #26960
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

615-361-7500

October 12, 2017

## **DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On October 12, 2017, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended Jason Wade Barnette from the practice of law for three (3) years, with one (1) year served as active suspension and the remainder on probation. Mr. Barnette must pay restitution to five former clients as a condition of reinstatement to the practice of law. Mr. Barnette must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days.

On November 10, 2016, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. Barnette, and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline was filed on February 9, 2017. These Petitions for Discipline included seven (7) complaints. Mr. Barnette entered a Conditional Guilty Plea on September 6, 2017.

The complaints alleged that after paying Mr. Barnette for representation, he missed court dates resulting in default judgments and was non-responsive to requests for information. In two cases, Mr. Barnette was able to have default judgments set aside. In one case, Mr. Barnette failed to timely remit proceeds of a settlement. In another case, Mr. Barnette agreed to dismiss a case he filed on behalf of a client without consulting her.

Mr. Barnette's misconduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.2 (scope of representation), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.15 (safekeeping property), 1.16 (terminating representation) and 8.4 (a), (c) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Barnette must comply with Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 28 regarding the obligations and responsibilities suspended attorneys.

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