



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW DAVID BAROCAS, BPR #031962
CONTACT: ANDREW B. CAMPBELL
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 19, 2024

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

Effective January 18, 2024, the Supreme Court of Tennessee suspended Matthew David Barocas from the practice of law for one year, with three months active suspension, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, and with the remainder to be served on probation. The suspension is conditioned upon incurring no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation, engagement of a practice monitor, completion of the Board's Trust Account Workshop and additional hours of Continuing Legal Education, and payment of Board costs.

Mr. Barocas must notify all clients being represented in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel, of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his law license. Mr. Barocas is required to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

Mr. Barocas failed to hold funds of a third party separate from his own funds; failed to promptly notify the third party of his possession of funds in which the party had an interest; failed to promptly deliver to the third party funds which the party was entitled to receive; failed to keep in trust separate funds in which two or more parties claimed an interest; failed to accurately disclose to the tribunal the status of funds held in his trust account; failed to obey an obligation under the rules of the tribunal with respect to garnishments and levies which disrupted court proceedings; and engaged in conduct involving misrepresentation as to the levied funds.

Mr. Barocas executed a Conditional Guilty Plea acknowledging his conduct violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.5(e) (fees), 1.15(a), (d), and (e) (safekeeping property and funds), 3.3(a) (candor toward tribunal), 3.4(b) (fairness to opposing party), 3.5(e) (impartiality and decorum of the tribunal), 8.4(a)-(d) and (g) (misconduct).

Mr. Barocas must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.