



**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
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW QUENTIN BASTIAN, BPR #12562
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 17, 2014

MAURY COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 9, 2014, Matthew Bastian, of Columbia, Tennessee, was suspended by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for eleven (11) months and twenty-nine (29) days. He was further ordered to pay restitution to James Miller in the amount of \$3,000.00 and to contact the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (“TLAP”) for evaluation. If TLAP determines that a monitoring agreement is appropriate, Mr. Bastian shall comply with the terms and conditions of the TLAP monitoring agreement. Mr. Bastian must also pay the Board’s costs.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed two (2) Petitions for Discipline against Mr. Bastian alleging that he improperly used his trust account for personal transactions, failed to timely respond to discovery requests, failed to appear at a hearing, and failed to timely respond to pleadings resulting in default and dismissal of his client’s case. Mr. Bastian entered into a conditional guilty plea admitting to violations of Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.15(a) and (b), Safekeeping Property; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 1.16(a)(2), (c) and (d), Declining and Terminating Representation; and 8.4(a), (c), and (d), Misconduct.

Mr. Bastian must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) and Section 30.4 (2014) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedures for reinstatement. He may not resume practice until reinstated by further order of this Court.

Bastian 2237-6; 2311-6 rel.doc

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