



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW QUENTIN BASTIAN, BPR #12562
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

February 3, 2016

MAURY COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On February 3, 2016, Matthew Bastian, formerly of Columbia, Tennessee, was disbarred by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. The Order disbaring Mr. Bastian is effective as of the date of filing. Mr. Bastian is required to pay restitution to a former client and the Board's costs in the disciplinary action.

A Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. Bastian alleging a lack of competence, diligence and communication; failure to refund unearned fees or respond to the Board; and abandoning his client and law practice. In December, 2012, Mr. Bastian received a \$4,500.00 retainer to prosecute an employment discrimination complaint. After entering his appearance as attorney of record, Mr. Bastian failed to appear at three (3) separate case management conferences or respond to an order from the Court. Mr. Bastian abandoned his client and his law practice without proper notice to his client, did not provide the professional services for which he was retained and failed to refund unearned fees. Mr. Bastian failed to respond to the Petition for Discipline or appear at trial.

Mr. Bastian's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) 1.1 (competence); 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.16 (declining or terminating representation); 3.2 (expediting litigation); and 8.1 (bar admissions and disciplinary matters); and 8.4, (misconduct).

Mr. Bastian must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 28 and Section 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedures for reinstatement. He may not resume the practice of law until reinstated by an order of the Supreme Court.