

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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December 4, 2006

NASHVILLE ATTORNEY SUSPENDED FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW

Richard "Rick" Hughes Batson, II, a Nashville attorney, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court on November 30, 2006. The suspension is for a term of one (1) year.

The Order also provides that Mr. Batson shall be evaluated by the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) and follow any recommendations of TLAP.

Disciplinary Counsel filed a Petition for Discipline and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline against Mr. Batson pursuant to Rule 9, Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Mr. Batson entered a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting his guilt of neglect and failure to adequately communicate with his clients.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Mr. Batson to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his license. Section 18 also requires Mr. Batson to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

This disciplinary matter was held pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 8 and 9. Lawyers suspended in Tennessee may, after the passage of their suspension, apply for reinstatement of their law license. To succeed with a Petition for Reinstatement, lawyers must carry their burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence that their reinstatement will not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the bar or the administration of justice or be subversive to the public interest.

Batson 1465-6 rel.doc

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