



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: KEITH ALAN BLACK, BPR #018546
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

June 14, 2018

HAMILTON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

Effective June 14, 2018, the Supreme Court of Tennessee suspended Keith Alan Black from the practice of law for a period of three (3) years, ordered restitution be paid in the amount of \$2,250.00, and costs of the disciplinary proceeding be paid to the Board.

A Petition for Discipline, Supplemental Petition for Discipline and Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline involving three (3) disciplinary complaints were filed against Mr. Black. At the conclusion of the final hearing, the Hearing Panel determined Mr. Black failed to reasonably communicate with and diligently represent his clients, failed to notify clients of his temporary suspension from the practice of law, failed to withdraw as attorney of record in pending cases and abandoned his practice. Mr. Black also failed to respond to the Board regarding the disciplinary complaints.

Mr. Black's unethical conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3 Diligence; 1.5, Fees; 1.16, Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 3.4, Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel; 8.1, Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4, Misconduct.

Mr. Black must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
06/14/2018
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: KEITH ALAN BLACK, BPR #018546
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Hamilton County)

No. M2018-01081-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2017-2676-3-AW

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Keith Alan Black on January 30, 2017; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed June 30, 2017; upon a Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Petition for Discipline and Supplemental Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed September 12, 2017; upon an Order Granting Default Judgment in the Petition for Discipline and Supplemental Petition for Discipline entered October 3, 2017; upon a Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed November 9, 2017; upon Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed December 8, 2017; upon an Order Granting Default Judgment in the Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline entered December 28, 2017; upon the final hearing held January 18, 2018; upon Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered March 8, 2018; upon service of the Judgment of the Hearing Panel upon Mr. Black by the Executive Secretary of the Board on March 8, 2018; upon Application for Assessment of Costs filed March 20, 2018; upon Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered April 6, 2018; upon service of the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs upon Mr. Black by the Executive Secretary of the Board on April 9, 2018; upon consideration and approval by the Board on May 3, 2018; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Judgment of the Hearing Panel and adopts the same as the Court's Order.

On November 8, 2016, Mr. Black was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.3 (Case No. M2016-02243-SC-BAR-BP), and Mr. Black has not requested, nor been granted reinstatement.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Keith Alan Black is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any reinstatement, Mr. Black shall make restitution to Mr. Travis Rowlett in the amount of \$2,250.00 and shall furnish to the Board of Professional Responsibility proof of restitution. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Black shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount.

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Black must have met all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(4) Additionally, Mr. Black shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(5) Further, the Order of Temporary Suspension, entered November 8, 2016, in Case No. M2016-02243-SC-BAR-BP, is hereby dissolved.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Black must pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,996.53, and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(8) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM