



**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](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: SPENCE ROBERTS BRUNER, BPR #19056**  
**CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 4, 2014

**ROANE COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On January 31, 2014, Spence Roberts Bruner, of Harriman, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for ninety (90) days. Mr. Bruner must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

A Petition for Discipline was filed on February 11, 2013, alleging Mr. Bruner violated the Rules of Professional Conduct in his representation of a client in a criminal matter. A Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Bruner failed to timely file an appellate brief and ignored four (4) orders from the Court of Criminal Appeals directing him to file the appellate brief. Mr. Bruner was found in contempt of court for willful failure to comply with the orders of the Court.

Mr. Bruner's unethical conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 3.2 (expediting litigation); 3.4 (fairness to the opposing party and counsel); and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Bruner must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Bruner 2184-2 rel.doc

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

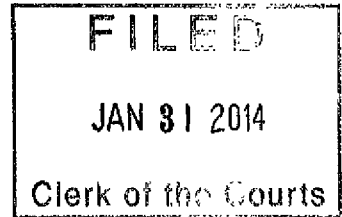
**IN RE: SPENCE ROBERTS BRUNER, BPR #019056**

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Roane County)

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No. M2014-00189-SC-BAR-BP  
BOPR No. 2013-2184-2-AW

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Spence Roberts Bruner on February 11, 2013; upon a Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed March 19, 2013; upon Order for Default Judgment and that Charges in the Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted entered April 22, 2013; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered July 26, 2013; upon Respondent's Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment filed September 24, 2013; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Denying Motion of Respondent to Alter or Amend Judgment entered on November 25, 2013; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 13, 2013; 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 Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Judgment of the Hearing Panel as the Court's Order.

It is, therefore, ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that:

(1) Spence Roberts Bruner is suspended for ninety (90) days pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2.<sup>1</sup>

(2) Mr. Bruner shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this case was initiated prior to January 1, 2014, it is governed by the pre-2014 version of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9.

(3) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Mr. Bruner shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$2,359.32 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.

(5) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark  
CORNELIA A. CLARK, JUSTICE