



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: PATRICIA DONICE BUTLER, BPR #22706
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 7, 2016

ROANE COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On January 7, 2016, Patricia Donice Butler, of Roane County, Tennessee, was disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court and ordered to pay restitution. The disbarment took effect immediately. Ms. Butler must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days.

A Petition for Discipline was filed on November 14, 2014, and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline was filed on April 16, 2015. The Petitions contained five (5) complaints alleging that Ms. Butler made false and misleading statements about members of a hearing panel, failed to diligently represent her clients, failed to communicate with her clients, failed to take necessary steps to protect her clients' interest and failed to respond to Disciplinary Counsel investigating this case.

The Hearing Panel determined that Ms. Butler's actions violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.16 (declining and terminating representation); 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters) and 8.4(a), (c) and (d) (misconduct).

Ms. Butler must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.