



**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).

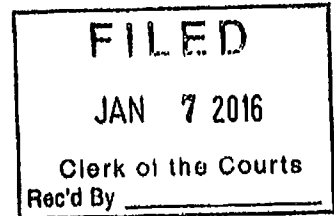
Ms. Butler must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

Butler 2391-2 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: PATRICIA DONICE BUTLER, BPR #22706
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Roane County)

No. M2015-02406-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2014-2391-2-KH



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Patricia Donice Butler, on November 14, 2014; upon Motion for Default Judgment and That Charges in Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed on April 6, 2015; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed on April 16, 2015; upon Order for Default Judgment entered on May 21, 2015; upon Motion for Default Judgment and That Charges in Supplemental Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed on May 29, 2015; upon Renewed Motion for Default Judgment and that the Allegations Contained in the Supplemental Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed on July 2, 2015; upon Order for Default Judgment entered on July 10, 2015; upon Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered on August 28, 2015; upon service of the Judgment of the Hearing Panel on Ms. Butler by the Executive Secretary of the Board on August 28, 2015; upon the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs filed on September 2, 2015; upon Judgment on the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs entered on September 30, 2015; upon service of the Judgment on the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs on Ms. Butler by the Executive Secretary of the Board on September 30, 2015; upon consideration and approval by the Board on October 7, 2015; 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 Hearing Panel's Judgment as the Court's Order.

On July 28, 2014, Ms. Butler was suspended from the practice of law for nine (9) months, with three months to be served as active suspension, for disciplinary misconduct. (Case No. M2014-01312-SC-BAR-BP) On March 13, 2015, Ms. Butler was temporarily suspended by this Court from the practice of law for failing to respond to the Board of

Professional Responsibility concerning a complaint of misconduct. (Case No. M2015-00452-SC-BAR-BP) To date, Ms. Butler has not been reinstated from these suspensions.

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

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.1 (2014), Patricia Donice Butler is disbarred from the practice of law.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7 (2014), and as a condition precedent to any reinstatement, Ms. Butler shall make restitution to the following individuals 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), Ms. Butler shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount:

- (a) Linda Marcum – \$130.00
- (b) Brian Ours – \$787.50
- (c) Anita Barrow – \$4,400.00

(3) Ms. Butler shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28 and Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 30.4 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(4) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Ms. Butler must meet all CLE requirements and pay any outstanding registration fees including those due from the date of disbarment to reinstatement.

(5) Further, the Order of Temporary Suspension entered on March 13, 2015, in Case No. M2015-00452-SC-BAR-BP is hereby dissolved.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1 (2014), this Order shall be effective immediately.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d) (2014), Ms. Butler shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,282.45 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.

(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 (2014).

PER CURIAM