



**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  
FA24: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JONATHAN STEPHEN CARLTON, BPR #029768**  
**CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 19, 2020

**TENNESSEE LAWYER DISBARRED**

Effective February 19, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Jonathan Stephen Carlton from the practice of law in the State of Tennessee.

A Hearing Panel found Mr. Carlton was suspended from the practice of law by the Tennessee Supreme Court on October 19, 2017. On December 14, 2017, Mr. Carlton knowingly undertook the legal representation of a new client while suspended from the practice of law, knowingly charged an unreasonable fee and filed pleadings in court while suspended. Thereafter, Mr. Carlton failed to reasonably communicate with his client, failed to act in a diligent manner, and knowingly failed to respond to the Board concerning a disciplinary complaint. The Panel found Mr. Carlton's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.16 (declining or terminating representation), 3.3 (candor toward the tribunal), 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law), 8.1(b) (disciplinary matters), and 8.4(a), (c), (d) and (g) (misconduct).

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

Carlton 2946-5 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

02/19/2020

Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: JONATHAN STEPHEN CARLTON, BPR #029768**

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Nortonville, Kentucky)

---

**No. M2020-00205-SC-BAR-BP**  
BOPR No. 2018-2946-5-AW

---

**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Jonathan Stephen Carlton on December 14, 2018; upon Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in the Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed May 30, 2019; upon entry of an Order Granting Default Judgment on June 21, 2019; upon the hearing in this matter held on July 15, 2019; upon the Hearing Panel entering its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment on October 24, 2019; upon service of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment upon Mr. Carlton by the Executive Secretary of the Board on October 24, 2019; upon the Board's Application for Assessment of Costs filed November 5, 2019; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Granting the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs on November 25, 2019; upon service of the Order Granting the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs upon Mr. Carlton by the Executive Secretary of the Board on November 25, 2019; upon consideration and approval by the Board on December 13, 2019; 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 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment as the Court's Order.

On September 7, 2018, Mr. Carlton was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3 (Case No. M2018-01620-SC-BAR-BP). To date, Mr. Carlton has neither requested, nor been granted reinstatement.

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

(1) Jonathan Stephen Carlton is disbarred from the practice of law in the State of Tennessee pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.1.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Carlton shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,527.51 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.

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

(5) The Order of Temporary Suspension (Case No. M2018-01620-SC-BAR-BP) entered September 7, 2018, is hereby dissolved.

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

(7) 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