



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ROBERT LAWSON CHEEK, JR., BPR #15407
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

February 10, 2017

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On February 8, 2017, Robert Lawson Cheek, Jr. was disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court. The disbarment is effective immediately. Mr. Cheek must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days.

Mr. Cheek's client executed a Durable Power of Attorney naming him as her attorney-in-fact. In the years 2010, 2011, and 2012, Mr. Cheek had a power of attorney for all of her business, financial, health, and personal matters. During that time, Mr. Cheek systematically withdrew approximately \$53,500 from her retirement accounts without her knowledge or consent. In August of 2010, Mr. Cheek set up a reverse mortgage in her name without her knowledge in the amount of almost \$60,000. The day after the funds were deposited into his client's bank account, Mr. Cheek withdrew \$58,070.00.

The Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Cheek's unethical conduct violated the Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3 Diligence; 1.4 Communication; 1.15 Safekeeping Property and Funds; 8.1 Bar and Disciplinary Matters, and; 8.4 Misconduct.

In unrelated cases, Mr. Cheek was disbarred on May 15, 2014, and August 12, 2015. To date, Mr. Cheek has not been reinstated from his previous disbarment.

Mr. Cheek must comply with Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys.

Cheek 2569-2 rel.doc