

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JOHN JAY CLARK, BPR #24360
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

August 9, 2017

WILLIAMSON COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On August 9, 2017, John Jay Clark was disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court. The disbarment took effect immediately. Mr. Clark must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days.

On November 2, 2016, the Tennessee Supreme Court summarily suspended John Jay Clark from the practice of law pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 22.3 based upon Mr. Clark's conviction for forgery. On November 22, 2016, the Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Final Petition for Discipline to determine the extent of Mr. Clark's discipline.

Mr. Clark's convictions arose from his representation of two clients in uncontested divorce cases. Mr. Clark prepared final decrees for his clients and forged the signature of the judge. He then gave the final decrees to his clients leading them to believe they were divorced. In one case, the spouse of Mr. Clark's client remarried based upon his belief that he was divorced. Mr. Clark is ordered to pay restitution to three (3) victims of his crime in the total amount of \$3,322.00. Mr. Clark's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 8.4 (a), (b), and (c) (Misconduct).

In an unrelated case, Mr. Clark was previously disbarred on December 14, 2016. To date, Mr. Clark has not been reinstated from his previous disbarment.

Mr. Clark must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, 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.

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