



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: CHARLES MICHAEL CLIFFORD, BPR #1544**  
**CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

May 10, 2018

**BLOUNT COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED**

On May 10, 2018, Charles Michael Clifford, of Maryville, Tennessee, was disbarred from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. As a condition of reinstatement, Mr. Clifford must submit to an evaluation by the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program and conform to any monitoring agreements deemed necessary. The disbarment begins on May 10, 2018. Mr. Clifford must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

In his representation of clients in a personal injury auto accident claim, Mr. Clifford failed to provide opposing counsel with his client's authorization for release of records relevant to injuries sustained as promised and as ordered by the court. In addition, Mr. Clifford and his clients failed to appear at a Motion for Pre-Trial Conference and failed to appear for scheduled depositions. After opposing counsel filed a Motion to Dismiss, Mr. Clifford filed a Notice of Voluntary Nonsuit with a proposed Order before the Motion could be heard. Mr. Clifford's clients were not included on the certificate of service nor updated about the status of the case. The clients were unable to contact Mr. Clifford which ultimately contributed to the clients' statute of limitations for re-filing expiring. Mr. Clifford did not respond to this complaint.

Mr. Clifford's ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2, Scope of Representation; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communications; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 8.1(b), Disciplinary Matters; 8.4(d), Conduct Prejudicial to the Administration of Justice; and 8.4(a), Violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Mr. Clifford was previously suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court on March 10, 2017, and has not been reinstated from this suspension.

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