

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

05/16/2025

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: JOSEPH HOUSTON CRABTREE, JR., BPR #011451

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(McMinn County)

No. M2025-00639-SC-BAR-BP

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Joseph Houston Crabtree on November 2, 2023; upon Petitioner's Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed on February 21, 2024; upon an Order Granting Default Judgment filed on May 14, 2024; upon service of the Order Granting Default Judgment upon Mr. Crabtree by the Executive Secretary of the Board on May 14, 2024; upon hearing of this matter before the appointed Hearing Panel on October 9, 2024; upon Final Order of the Hearing Panel entered on November 8, 2024; upon service of the Final Order of the Hearing Panel on Mr. Crabtree by the Executive Secretary of the Board on November 8, 2024; upon the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs filed on November 25, 2024; upon Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered on December 13, 2024; upon service of the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs on Mr. Crabtree by the Executive Secretary of the Board on December 13, 2024; upon consideration and approval by the Board on December 13, 2024; 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 Final Order of the Hearing Panel, adopts the Hearing Panel's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and further adopts the Hearing Panel's recommendation that Mr. Crabtree be disbarred as this Court's Order.

On September 7, 2023, Mr. Crabtree was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 12.3, for failure to respond to the Board as to disciplinary complaints, under docket no. M2023-01264-SC-BAR-BP (BOPR No. 2023-3349-3-AW-12.3). To date, Mr. Crabtree has not requested nor been granted reinstatement.

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

(1) Mr. Crabtree is permanently disbarred from the practice of law pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct., R., § 12.1.

(2) Mr. Crabtree shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys.

(3) The Order of Temporary Suspension issued September 7, 2023, Docket No. M2023-01264-SC-BAR-BP (BOPR No. 2023-3349-3-AW-12.3), is hereby dissolved.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Crabtree shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs incurred to date by the Board in this matter in the amount of \$1,203.00, which includes \$100.00 for the cost of filing this matter, and pay this filing fee to the Board and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the court costs incurred herein. All costs, fees, and expenses awarded or assessed herein shall be paid within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for which execution, if necessary, may issue.

(5) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

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

PER CURIAM