

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**FILED**  
01/26/2024  
Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: WENDELL CORNELIUS DAWSON, BPR #012960**  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

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**No. M2024-00123-SC-BAR-BP**  
BOPR No. 2022-3269-5-AC

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Wendell Cornelius Dawson on August 3, 2022; upon Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility (Board and/or Petitioner) on July 24, 2023; upon Respondent's Response and Motion for Summary Judgment filed on August 14, 2023; upon the Board's Reply in Support of its Motion for Summary Judgment filed on August 25, 2023; upon the Board's Response in Opposition to Respondent's Motion for Summary Judgment filed on August 25, 2023; upon the Board's Notice of Waiver of oral argument filed on August 31, 2023; upon the concurrence of Respondent's counsel (as transmitted to the Hearing Panel by email on September 1, 2023) that the matters may be decided on the written submissions; upon the Order of the Hearing Panel granting summary judgment to the Board entered on September 25, 2023; upon Respondent's Objection to the Grant of Board's Summary Judgment and for Considerations for Final Disposition and Sanctions filed October 2, 2023; upon the Board's Response to Respondent's Objection filed October 4, 2023; upon the Respondent's Supplemental Objection to Granting Summary Judgment filed October 24, 2023; upon Respondent's Motion to Continue the Trial Sanction Hearing filed October 24, 2023; upon Respondent's Motion Pursuant to Rule 60.02(1) to set aside summary judgment filed October 24, 2023; upon the Board's Consolidated Response in Opposition to Respondent's Rule 60.02 Motion, Motion to Continue, Motion to Participate by Video Conference and Supplemental Witness List filed October 25, 2023; upon Respondent filing a Conditional Guilty Plea on October 30, 2023; upon Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea filed on November 3, 2023; upon service of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Plea on Mr. Dawson, via his counsel, by the Executive Secretary of the Board of Professional Responsibility on November 3, 2023; upon consideration and approval of said Hearing Panel's Order by the Board on December 8, 2023; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which, the Court approves the November 3, 2023, Order of the Hearing Panel and approves the Conditional Guilty Plea executed on October 30, 2023.

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

(1) Mr. Dawson is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years with three (3) months to be served as an active suspension, and the remainder shall be served on probation pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 14.1. The grant of probation is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Mr. Dawson at his cost, if any, shall engage the services of a Practice Monitor who shall be selected and approved in accordance with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The Respondent shall, in utilizing a Practice Monitor, comply with all requirements as contained in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The Practice Monitor shall meet with Respondent monthly and assess Respondent's case load, case management, timeliness of performing tasks, adequacy of communication with clients and accounting procedures. The Practice Monitor shall provide a monthly written report of Respondent's progress to Disciplinary Counsel;
- (b) Prior to returning to practice on a probationary basis, Mr. Dawson shall complete an additional fifteen (15) hours of Continuing Legal Education, with such 15 hours to be divided evenly between the topics of ethics and office management.

(2) In the event Mr. Dawson fails to meet or maintain any condition of probation, the probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §14.2 (2014).

(3) During the period of suspension and probation, Mr. Dawson shall incur no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation and which results in the recommendation by the Board that discipline be imposed.

(4) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Dawson 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. In addition, Mr. Dawson shall be in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order, including the full payment of all restitution.

(5) Mr. Dawson shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Dawson 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 \$6,265.00, inclusive of \$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.

(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.

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

PER CURIAM