



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JAMES AUSTIN DUKES, BPR #026731**  
**CONTACT: JERRY MORGAN**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

October 9, 2020

**TENNESSEE LAWYER DISBARRED**

Effective October 9, 2020, James Austin Dukes, of Tangipahoa Parrish, Louisiana, was permanently disbarred from the practice of law in Tennessee. Mr. Dukes was found guilty of theft of \$25,000.00 or more; theft of assets of aged; and exploitation of the infirmed in Docket 1-703267 in the State of Louisiana, Parish of Tangipahoa. Mr. Dukes requested to permanently resign from the practice of law in Louisiana in lieu of discipline. As a result, on July 2, 2020, the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana entered an order stating that “James A. Dukes shall be permanently prohibited from practicing law in Louisiana” and “shall be permanently prohibited from seeking readmission to the practice of law in this state.”

On August 28, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered a Notice of Reciprocal Discipline directing Mr. Dukes to inform the Court within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Notice as to why the discipline imposed by the Supreme Court of Louisiana should not be imposed by this Court. Mr. Dukes provided no response to the Supreme Court.

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

Dukes 3118-0 rel.doc