



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW DAVID DUNN, BPR #030759
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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October 8, 2019

WILLIAMSON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On October 8, 2019, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending Matthew David Dunn from the practice of law for a period of five (5) years, with a minimum of three (3) years to be served as an active suspension, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, and the remaining two (2) years to be served on probation, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 14.1; and payment to the Board for all costs in the disciplinary proceeding.

A Hearing Panel found Mr. Dunn knowingly and intentionally failed to diligently respond to discovery requests; failed to respond to motions filed by opposing counsel; failed to comply with discovery obligations set forth in the Rules of Civil Procedure; failed to appear for scheduled court hearings; and failed to take any action to set aside the dismissal of his client's case. The Panel determined Mr. Dunn's lack of diligence resulted in the dismissal of his client's case with prejudice, and thereafter, Mr. Dunn failed to promptly inform his client of the dismissal of her action. The Panel further found Mr. Dunn knowingly and intentionally took advantage of his personal relationship with his client and her circumstances to pressure the client to settle her legal malpractice claim and withdraw her disciplinary complaint. Finally, the Panel found Mr. Dunn misled the Board to believe his client had accepted his offer to compensate her for the loss of her action.

Mr. Dunn is guilty of violating Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.8(h)(2) (conflict of interest), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 3.4(c) and (d) (fairness to opposing party/counsel), 8.1(a) (disciplinary matters), and 8.4(a), (c), and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Dunn must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.