



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MATTHEW DAVID DUNN, BPR #030759
CONTACT: JOSEPH K. BYRD
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

June 10, 2020

WILLIAMSON COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

Effective June 10, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Matthew David Dunn from the practice of law and ordered restitution in the amount of \$95,621.00, and costs of the disciplinary proceeding be paid. This order disbaring Mr. Dunn is based upon a Petition for Discipline involving thirty-one (31) separate disciplinary complaints filed against Mr. Dunn.

In twelve of the disciplinary complaints filed, Mr. Dunn participated in a timeshare relief system that did not actually provide any relief to the complainants. Mr. Dunn would send a form letter to the timeshare agency, but then he abandoned each client. The remaining complaints involve Mr. Dunn assigning client files to associates within his firm. The associate would leave the firm, and the client would remain with the Dunn Law Firm. However, Mr. Dunn failed to communicate or work the client's file. Mr. Dunn abandoned his practice and failed to respond to the complaints filed against him.

Mr. Dunn admitted violating Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 (scope of representation and allocation of authority between client and lawyer), 8.1(b) (bar and disciplinary matters), and 8.4(a) (misconduct), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 3.4(c) (fairness to the opposing party and counsel), 5.1 (responsibility of a partner, managing lawyer, or supervising lawyer), 5.3 (responsibilities regarding non-lawyer assistants), 5.4(a) (professional independence of a lawyer), 7.1 (communications concerning a lawyer's services), 7.6 (intermediary organizations), 8.1(b) (bar admissions and disciplinary matters) and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Dunn must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

06/10/2020

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: MATTHEW DAVID DUNN, BPR #030759
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Williamson County)

No. M2020-00781-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR NO. 2019-3033-6-TL

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Attorney Matthew David Dunn on August 22, 2019; upon a Motion for Default Judgment and That Charges in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed October 29, 2019; upon an Order for Default Judgment entered November 6, 2019; upon final hearing held December 4, 2019; upon Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law entered January 28, 2020; upon service of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Hearing Panel on Mr. Dunn by the Executive Secretary of the Board on January 28, 2020; upon the Board's Application for Assessment of Costs filed January 29, 2020; upon Findings and Judgment of Assessment of Costs entered March 6, 2020; upon service of the Findings and Judgment of Assessment of Costs upon Mr. Dunn on March 6, 2020; upon consideration and approval by the Board on March 13, 2020; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

On October 8, 2019, Mr. Dunn was suspended by this Court, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2 (Case No. M2019-01751-SC-BAR-BP) and said suspension remains in effect.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order as the Court's Order.

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

(1) Matthew David Dunn is disbarred from the practice of law pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R., § 12.1.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any reinstatement, Mr. Dunn shall make restitution to the following individuals listed below:

- a) Dennis and Kelly Renzelman -\$4,335.00
- b) Robert and Beth Fogarty - \$4,500.00
- c) Debbie Pearson - \$3,700.00
- d) Billy and Geneva Woodbury - \$3,000.00
- e) Peter Graham - \$2,500.00
- f) Pauline Copeland - \$4,000.00
- g) Sandra Smit - \$6,000.00
- h) David Carter - \$3,995.00
- i) Felicita Morales - \$3,000.00
- j) Lynn Hearl - \$5,995.00
- k) Claude Rosser - \$4,995.00
- l) Nancy and Pamela Eyre - \$4,001.00
- m) Joseph Ashley-Ricketts - \$2,600.00
- n) Mary Eden and Tom Farmer - \$35,000.00 (subject to diminution based upon proof of actual work completed as submitted by Mr. Dunn to show that a portion of the fees were earned).
- o) Diane Mitchell - \$5,000.00 (subject to diminution based upon proof of actual work completed as submitted by Mr. Dunn to show that a portion of the fees were earned).
- p) Brian Horrocks - \$3,000.00 (subject to diminution based upon proof of actual work completed as submitted by Mr. Dunn to show that a portion of the fees were earned).

To the extent restitution is paid by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection ("TLFCP"), Mr. Dunn shall reimburse TLFCP for said amount and shall remain obligated to the individuals listed above for any unpaid restitution.

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

(4) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Dunn must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this disbarment until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective immediately.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3, Mr. Dunn shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$2,892.78 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(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.

PER CURIAM