



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JAMES DALLARD ESTEP, III, BPR #009436**  
**CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

January 8, 2010

**NEW TAZEWELL LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On December 30, 2009, James Dallard Estep, III, of New Tazewell, Tennessee, was suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court, pursuant to a Conditional Guilty Plea, for a period of one (1) year pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.2, of the Rules of the Supreme Court. However, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 8.5, Mr. Estep was placed on probation for a period of ten (10) months following two (2) months of active suspension.

Mr. Estep violated disciplinary rules by neglecting an estate and paying himself fees out of an estate without Court approval. Mr. Estep's actions violated Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 8, Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (Competence); 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.5 (fees); 1.15 (safeguarding property) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Estep was ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings against him, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.7, of the Rules of the Supreme Court and fully comply in all respects with the requirements and obligations of suspended attorneys as set forth in Rule 9, Section 18.1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

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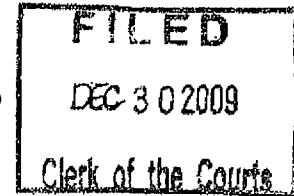
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: JAMES DALLARD ESTEP, III, BPR # 009436

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

NO. 2009-02682-JC-BPD-OP  
BPR DOCKET NO. 2009-1828-1-SG



**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility against James Dallard Estep, III, ("Respondent"); upon Respondent's Response to Petition for Discipline; Respondent's Conditional Guilty Plea; and upon the Hearing Panel Order approving Conditional Guilty Plea filed December 7, 2009 and approved by the Board on December 11, 2009, and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court accepts the Order of the Hearing Panel and concludes that the Order is appropriate. Specifically, Respondent shall be suspended for one (1) year, with two (2) months active suspension and ten (10) months of probation under the supervision of a practice monitor.

It is, therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED** by the Court that:

1. The Respondent, James Dallard Estep, III, is suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.2. However, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 8.5, two (2) months of that period will be served on active suspension. The remainder of the period of suspension will be suspended, and Respondent shall be placed on probation for a period of ten (10) months, subject to the following conditions:

a. Respondent shall obtain a practice monitor, approved by Disciplinary Counsel, who will monitor Respondent's law practice for the entire probationary period. Respondent must maintain weekly contact in some format with the practice monitor and must meet in person with the practice monitor at least once per month. Additionally, the practice monitor must submit to the Board a written monthly update.

2. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 24.3, the Respondent shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$234.83, within ninety (90) days of the date of the entry of this Order, and in addition, shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

3. The Respondent shall comply in all aspects with Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

4. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.10.

5. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark  
CORNELIA A. CLARK  
JUSTICE

Michael W. Catalano, Clerk, hereby certify that  
this is a true and exact copy of the original  
Order  
filed in the cause.  
This 20 day of Dec, 2009  
By: Andra Lane CLERK OF COURT D.C.