



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAKE PRESTON EVANS, BPR #030147
CONTACT: JOSEPH K. BYRD
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 9, 2021

TENNESSEE LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 9, 2021, Jake Preston Evans, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, was suspended for sixteen months retroactive to March 9, 2020 by the Supreme Court of Tennessee and ordered to contact Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program, pay restitution to his clients and pay costs of the disciplinary action to the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Mr. Evans was retained in two separate patent and trademark matters and was not diligent in making timely filings for patents and copyright matters resulting in the applications being denied. Mr. Evans failed to perfect appeals of those denials, failed to reasonably communicate with his clients, and failed to respond to Board inquiries.

Mr. Evans executed a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting his conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), and 8.1 (bar admissions and disciplinary matters).

Mr. Evans 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.

Evans 3105 0 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

07/09/2021

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: JAKE PRESTON EVANS, BPR #030147

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Charlotte, North Carolina)

No. M2021-00759-SC-BAR-BP

BOPR No. 2020-3105-0-JB

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Jake Preston Evans on July 13, 2020; upon an Answer to Disciplinary Complaint filed October 14, 2020; upon Complaint File No. 64862-0-ES; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Evans on June 22, 2021; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on June 28, 2021; upon service of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea by the Executive Secretary of the Board on June 29, 2021; upon consideration and approval of the Conditional Guilty Plea by the Board on June 30, 2021; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On March 9, 2020, Mr. Evans was temporarily suspended by this Court, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3 (Case No. M2020-00381-SC-BAR-BP). Mr. Evans has neither requested nor been granted reinstatement from the temporary suspension.

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

- (1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, Jake Preston Evans is suspended from the practice of law for a period of sixteen (16) months retroactive to March 9, 2020, as an active suspension conditioned upon Mr. Evans contacting the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) for an evaluation and, if recommended, entering into a monitoring agreement and complying with its terms. Further Mr. Evans shall execute an appropriate release sufficient to allow TLAP to communicate with the Board regarding any monitoring agreement.

- (3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Evans 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.
- (4) Additionally, Mr. Evans 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.
- (5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.
- (6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Evans shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$907.00 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) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §12.7, Mr. Evans shall be required to make restitution to Barbara Payne in the amount of \$660.00 and Tequia Williams in the amount of \$4,524.51. Payment of restitution is a condition precedent to reinstatement. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Evans will be responsible for reimbursement to the TLFCP in the same amount
- (8) The Order of Temporary Suspension (Case No. M2020-00381-SC-BAR-BP) entered March 9, 2020, is hereby dissolved.
- (9) 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