

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: DONALD WALTER FISHER, BPR #14714
CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

August 24, 2015

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On August 21, 2015, Donald Walter Fisher of Nashville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for one (1) year, with ninety (90) days served as active suspension and the remainder on probation. The order was effective upon entry. Mr. Fisher must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

Mr. Fisher failed to properly supervise non-lawyer assistants in a personal injury practice by allowing them to have too much responsibility for client communication and settlement negotiations. A non-lawyer employee of Mr. Fisher made a telephone solicitation of two potential clients soon after their automobile accidents. The same employee gave gas cards to two clients. That employee signed Mr. Fisher's name to a complaint. Mr. Fisher filed a complaint on behalf of two persons with adverse interests. Mr. Mr. Fisher failed to adequately communicate with his clients and failed to adequately supervise his non-lawyer employees.

Mr. Fisher's actions violated RPC 1.4 (communication), 1.7(a) (conflicts of interest: current clients), 1.8(e) (conflicts of interest: specific rules), 5.3(b) (responsibilities regarding non-lawyer assistants), 7.3(a) (solicitation of potential clients) and 8.4(a) (misconduct).

Mr. Fisher must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Fisher 2372-5 rel.doc