



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: MICHAEL LLOYD FREEMAN, BPR #028698**  
**CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

June 22, 2021

**DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On June 21, 2021, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending Michael Lloyd Freeman from the practice of law for a period of three (3) years with three (3) months active suspension pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, and the remainder on probation pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 14.1. Mr. Freeman must pay the Board for all costs in the disciplinary proceeding as well as restitution in the amount of \$750.00. During the period of probation, Mr. Freeman shall obtain an evaluation with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program and engage the services of a Practice Monitor.

A Hearing Panel found Mr. Freeman failed to file an appropriate complaint in a contested divorce action resulting in the dismissal of the divorce for failure to prosecute, failed to reasonably communicate with his client and expedite his litigation, failed to review his client's file and respond to a pending motion for summary judgment, and failed to file an executed marital dissolution agreement and take appropriate action to confirm its filing with the Court in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication) and 3.2 (expediting litigation).

Mr. Freeman 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.

Freeman 2711-5 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

06/21/2021

Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: MICHAEL LLOYD FREEMAN, BPR #028698**

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

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**No. M2021-00657-SC-BAR-BP**  
BOPR No. 2017-2711-5-AJ

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Michael Lloyd Freeman on April 26, 2017; upon Answer to Petition for Discipline filed by Mr. Freeman on June 19, 2017; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed against Mr. Freeman on August 15, 2018; upon Answer to Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed by Mr. Freeman on February 6, 2019; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Freeman on February 11, 2020; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on February 12, 2020; upon service of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea by the Executive Secretary of the Board dated February 12, 2020; upon consideration and approval by the Board on March 13, 2020; upon rejection of the Conditional Guilty Plea by this Court on April 16, 2020, upon Order Setting Trial for July 8, 2020; upon Respondent's Motion to Recuse Panel Members filed on June 23, 2020; upon Response to Motion to Recuse filed on June 26, 2020; upon Order granting Respondent's Motion to Recuse Panel Members filed on June 30, 2020; upon Order Continuing Hearing filed on July 6, 2020; upon Seventh Amended Scheduling Order re-setting hearing for September 1, 2020; upon commencement of the trial on September 1, 2020; upon Order Continuing Trial entered on September 3, 2020; upon continuance of the trial to December 16, 2020; upon Mr. Freeman filing his Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on February 5, 2021; upon the Board filing its Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on February 5, 2021; upon the Hearing Panel's Decision issued on March 3, 2021; upon service of the Hearing Panel's Decision on Mr. Freeman on March 3, 2021; upon the Board filing its Application for Assessment of Costs on March 12, 2021; upon the Hearing Panel issuing its Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs on March 30, 2021; upon consideration and approval by the Board on May 20, 2021; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

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

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

(1) Michael Lloyd Freeman is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, with three (3) months to be served as active suspension and the remainder on probation, subject to the following conditions of probation:

- (a) Mr. Freeman shall contact the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) for an evaluation and, if recommended, enter into a monitoring agreement and comply with its terms. Further, Mr. Freeman shall give TLAP permission to communicate with the Board regarding any monitoring agreement.
- (b) Mr. Freeman, at his cost, shall engage a practice monitor who shall be selected and approved in accordance with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The practice monitor shall meet with Mr. Freeman on a monthly basis to review basic office procedures such as scheduling and maintenance of case deadlines and the use of written communications and fee agreements. The practice monitor shall send monthly reports to Disciplinary Counsel during the first year of probation and quarterly thereafter.
- (c) During the period of active suspension and probation, Mr. Freeman shall incur no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation and which results in the recommendation by the Board that discipline be imposed. In the event that Mr. Freeman violates or otherwise fails to meet said conditions of probation, Disciplinary Counsel shall be authorized to file a petition to revoke Mr. Freeman's probation pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 14.2. Upon a finding that revocation is warranted, Mr. Freeman shall serve the previously deferred period of suspension.

(2) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Freeman 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.

(3) Additionally, Mr. Freeman 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.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Freeman shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$4,839.65 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.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §12.7, Mr. Freeman shall be required to make restitution to Albertina Hughes in the amount of \$750.00. Payment of restitution is a condition precedent to reinstatement and the grant of probation. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection ("TLFCP"), Mr. Freeman will be responsible for reimbursement to the TLFCP in the same amount.

(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