



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JOHN DOUGLAS GODBEE, BPR #6234
CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

November 16, 2012

HAWKINS COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On November 15, 2012, the Tennessee Supreme Court disbarred John Douglas Godbee, a Hawkins County attorney.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Godbee pursuant to Rule 9, Section 8.2, of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, charging Mr. Godbee with official misconduct and, while acting as assistant district attorney, soliciting and/or receiving sexual favors from female defendants in exchange for consideration on their cases.

Mr. Godbee submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea which was approved by a Hearing Panel, the Board of Professional Responsibility and the Supreme Court. Mr. Godbee's actions violate Rules of Professional Conduct 4.2 (communication with a person represented by counsel) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Godbee was ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings against him, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 24.3, of the Rules of the Supreme Court, and fully comply in all respects with the requirements and obligations of disbarred attorneys as set forth in Rule 9, Section 18.

Godbee 2074-1 rel.doc

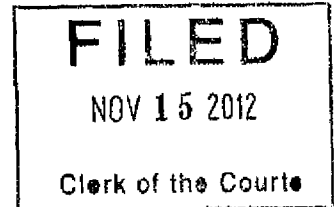
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

JOHN DOUGLAS GODBEE, BPR # 006234
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Hawkins County)



No. M2012-02304-SC-BPR-BP
BOPR Docket No. 2011-2074-1-SG
BOPR File Nos. 35378-1-SG, 35499-1-SG, 35525-1-SG,
35526-1-SG, and 35538-1-SG

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against John Douglas Godbee on September 22, 2011, by the Board of Professional Responsibility (the Board) in Docket No. 2011-2074-1-SG; upon Mr. Godbee's Response to the Petition for Discipline filed October 17, 2011; upon Mr. Godbee's Conditional Guilty Plea filed October 15, 2012 in Docket No. 2011-2074-1-SG and File No. 35378-1-SG, 35499-1-SG, 35525-1-SG, 35526-1-SG, and 35538-1-SG; upon the Hearing Panel's Order of Recommendation of Conditional Guilty Plea filed October 18, 2012; upon the Board's approval of Mr. Godbee's Conditional Guilty Plea on October 24, 2012; 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 of Recommendation of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

By Order filed August 6, 2012, this Court temporarily suspended Mr. Godbee from the practice of law in Docket No. M2012-01588-SG-BPR-BP. On September 14, 2012, this Court temporarily suspended Mr. Godbee from the practice of law in Docket No. M2012-01923-SC-BPR-BP. These Orders temporarily suspending Mr. Godbee are dissolved by this Order.

It is, therefore, ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court that:

1. John Douglas Godbee is disbarred.

2. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry.
3. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, the Mr. Godbee shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$5,613.87 and in addition, 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.
4. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:



WILLIAM C. KOCH, JR., JUSTICE