



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: KING BETHEL HARRIS, III, BPR# 23282
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 24, 2011

MEMPHIS LAWYER DISBARRED

On January 19, 2011, King Bethel Harris, III, of Memphis, Tennessee, was disbarred by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. He was further ordered to pay restitution to Lindsay Gerrard in the amount of \$125,000.00 and Mary Kellogg in the amount of \$85,000.00. He must also pay the Board's costs.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed two (2) Petitions for Discipline against Mr. Harris pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The Petitions were consolidated for hearing due to the similarity of the complaints. A Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Harris continued to hold himself out as a licensed attorney while serving an ongoing, prior suspension for disciplinary misconduct. Using a Missouri address and a Tennessee address as an office location, Mr. Harris promised Ms. Gerrard and Ms. Kellogg that he would hold their funds in his attorney trust account in an investment deal he was facilitating. The funds were never transferred to a third party for investment.

His actions violate the following Rule(s) of Professional Conduct: 1.15, Safekeeping Property; 5.5, Unauthorized Practice of Law; 5.7, Responsibilities Regarding Law-Related Services; 7.1 Communications Concerning a Lawyer's Services; 7.5(a)(b) Firm Names and Letterheads; and 8.4(a)(b)(c), Misconduct.

Mr. Harris must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 19, should he seek reinstatement of his Tennessee law license, and he may not resume practice until reinstated by further order of this Court.

Harris 1841-9; 1875-9 rel.doc.

PLEASE NOTE

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

2011 JAN 19 PM 2:58

IN RE: KING BETHEL HARRIS, III, BPR #23282

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

APPELLATE COURT CLERK
NASHVILLE

NO. M2011-00114-SC-BPO-BP

BOPR No. 2009-1841-9-KH & 2010-1875-9-KH

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed on August 28, 2009 by the Board of Professional Responsibility ("Board") against King Bethel Harris, III, ("Respondent"); upon a Motion for Default and That Allegations Be Deemed Admitted filed by the Board on October 26, 2009; upon an Order of Default entered on December 8, 2009; upon an Order entered by the Panel on April 13, 2010 consolidating Docket Number 2009-1841-9-KH and 2010-1875-9-KH; upon Petition for Discipline, Docket Number 2010-1875-9-KH, filed on January 6, 2010 and Respondent's Answer filed on March 3, 2010; upon Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment entered by the Hearing Panel on November 11, 2010, which has not been appealed; upon approval of the Board given on December 10, 2010; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment of the Hearing Panel and adopts the judgment of the Hearing Panel as the Court's Order.

By Order entered January 3, 2008, in Case No. M2007-00315-SC-BPR-BP, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year based upon his conditional guilty plea to the violations charged. To date, Respondent has not requested, nor been granted, reinstatement.

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

1. Respondent, King Bethel Harris, III, be and is hereby disbarred pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.1.

2. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.7, Respondent shall pay restitution to the following individuals as set forth below. Payment of restitution shall be a condition precedent to reinstatement.

- a) Lindsay Gerrard (\$125,000.00); and
- b) Mary Kellogg (\$85,000.00).

3. The disbarment shall become effective ten (10) days after the filing of this Order.

4. Respondent shall comply in all aspects with Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 19 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

5. By Order entered January 3, 2008, in Case No. M2007-00315-SC-BPR-BP, Respondent was suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year based upon his conditional guilty plea to the violations charged. To date, Mr. Harris has not requested, nor been granted, reinstatement. Therefore, the entry of this Order does not affect the continuing validity of the prior disciplinary suspension.

6. 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 \$5,694.41 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.

7. The Board shall cause notice of this disbarment to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark
CORNELIA A. CLARK
CHIEF JUSTICE

I, the undersigned, Clerk, hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original filed in the cause.
This 19 day of August, 2011.
By: [Signature]
CLERK OF COURT