

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION RE: CHARLES B. HILL, II, BPR #5809 CONTACT: THERESA COSTONIS **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY** <u>615-361-7500</u>

March 24, 2005

KINGSTON ATTORNEY SUSPENDED

By order of the Tennessee Supreme Court entered March 22, 2005, attorney Charles B. Hill, II, of Kingston, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law in this state for a period of one year effective April 1, 2005.

A Petition for Discipline and two Supplemental Petitions for Discipline had been filed against Mr. Hill by the Board of Professional Responsibility. Mr. Hill entered into a Conditional Plea of Guilty with the Board of Professional Responsibility to resolve the Petition for Discipline and two Supplemental Petitions for Discipline in exchange for a stated form of discipline. Mr. Hill pled guilty to allowing a statute of limitations to expire in a car wreck case in which he had been representing the potential plaintiffs, without filing a complaint on their behalf. Instead of admitting this to them, Mr. Hill created a fictitious "judgment" purporting to be an award of \$2,800 in damages to Mr. Hill's clients in a lawsuit supposedly filed on their behalf (when in fact no such lawsuit had ever been filed), and gave a copy of this fictitious document to his clients. In another matter, involving a personal injury case in which Mr. Hill was representing the plaintiff, Mr. Hill filed a voluntary dismissal of the plaintiff's lawsuit without explaining this to his client and failed to timely respond to additional requests for information from Disciplinary Counsel.

Mr. Hill may be reinstated to the practice of law at the expiration of the one-year period only upon filing a Petition for Reinstatement, as required by Section 19 of Supreme Court Rule 9, and producing clear and convincing evidence that he should be reinstated to the practice of law. Mr. Hill agreed and the Court further ordered that Mr. Hill's eligibility for reinstatement at any such reinstatement proceeding shall be dependent upon his compliance with several additional requirements. Mr. Hill is required to attend and complete the Board of Professional Responsibility's Ethics

Workshop in August, 2005. Mr. Hill is also required to make restitution to the clients in the matter in which he created the fictitious "judgment" awarding them that amount. Mr. Hill is required to commit himself to voluntarily subjecting his practice upon reinstatement to the supervision of an attorney monitor for a one-year period following the date of the reinstatement of his license to practice law. The areas of his practice, upon reinstatement, to be subjected to such monitoring are to include but not be limited to his making and keeping of scheduled deadlines and appointments, and to ensuring Mr. Hill meets his obligation to communicate adequately, honestly and fully with his clients about their cases.

Mr. Hill agreed and the Court further ordered that Mr. Hill pay the costs of the disciplinary proceeding before he can be reinstated and that he comply in all respects with Supreme Court Rule 9 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

/TC

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