



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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May 29, 2009

MEMPHIS LAWYER SUSPENDED

On May 22, 2009, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended David J. Johnson, of Memphis, Tennessee, for six (6) months with all time to be served on probation subject to several conditions. Mr. Johnson must perform one hundred (100) hours pro bono service and attend an additional three (3) hours continuing legal education in ethics and professionalism prior to the expiration of the probationary period. Further, Mr. Johnson is ordered to pay the Board's costs in this matter within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the entry of the Order.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Johnson on January 28, 2000, alleging that Mr. Johnson exercised a lack of diligence involving an investment scheme perpetrated by a former client. Mr. Johnson did not represent the former client during the operation of the scheme; however, he did serve as a signatory to accounts the client used to pay investors. The culmination of negligence and lack of diligence by Mr. Johnson adversely reflects on his fitness to practice law. Mr. Johnson entered into a Conditional Guilty Plea which was approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Johnson's actions violate the Disciplinary Rule 1-102(A)(6), Misconduct.

Johnson 1145-9 rel.doc

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