



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**MICHAEL D. KELLUM, BPR # 014920**  
**CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

May 30, 2012

**WASHINGTON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On May 25, 2012, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended Michael D. Kellum, of Johnson City, Tennessee, for thirty-three (33) months, with credit for twenty-one (21) months suspension served while on temporary suspension, and ordered Mr. Kellum to pay restitution of \$15,936 to five former clients and the Tennessee Lawyers Fund for Client Protection.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline and Supplemental Petition against Mr. Kellum pursuant to Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The Board of Professional Responsibility alleged that Mr. Kellum accepted fees, but then neglected clients' matters, failed to communicate with his clients and accepted unearned fees.

Mr. Kellum submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea which was approved by a Hearing Panel, the Board of Professional Responsibility and the Supreme Court.

Mr. Kellum's actions violate Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication); and 1.16 (terminating representation). For these violations, the Supreme Court of Tennessee suspended Mr. Kellum's law license. Mr. Kellum 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 the Court.

Mr. Kellum was furthered ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings, 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 suspended attorneys as set forth in Rule 9, Section 18.1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Kellum 1598-1 rel.doc

**PLEASE NOTE**

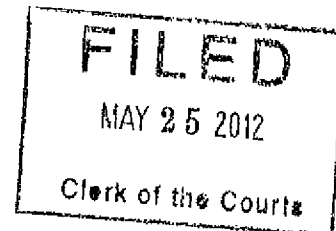
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE MICHAEL D. KELLUM, BPR #014920  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Washington County)

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No. M2012-00951-SC-BPR-BP  
BOPR No. 2006-1598-1-TH  
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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed on May 18, 2006, by the Board of Professional Responsibility ("Board") against Michael D. Kellum in Docket No. 2006-1598-1-TH; upon the Board's Motion for Default Judgment filed August 22, 2006; upon the Hearing Panel's Judgment filed November 13, 2006; upon Mr. Kellum's Motion to Reconsider Judgment filed December 13, 2006; upon the Order entered March 22, 2006; upon the Board's Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed March 23, 2012; upon Mr. Kellum's Conditional Guilty Plea filed April 10, 2012; upon the Hearing Panel's Order approving the Conditional Guilty Plea filed April 18, 2012; upon the Board's consideration and approval of the Hearing Panel's Order Approving Conditional Guilty Plea on April 26, 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 April 18, 2012, Order of the Hearing Panel as the Court's Order.

By Order entered May 1, 2006, Michael D. Kellum was temporarily suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.3 in Case No. 2006-1598-1-TH. By Order entered January 4, 2008, this Court transferred Mr. Kellum's license to disability inactive status pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 21 in Case No. 2006-1598-1-TH. By Order entered December 11, 2011, this Court dissolved Mr. Kellum's disability status leaving in place Mr. Kellum's temporary suspension in Case No. 2006-1598-1-TH. To date, this Court has not dissolved that temporary suspension.

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

1. Michael D. Kellum is suspended from the practice of law for a period of thirty-three (33) months, with credit for twenty-one (21) months suspension served pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2.

2. The suspension shall become effective ten (10) days after the filing of this Order.
3. Mr. Kellum shall pay \$15,936 in restitution pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.7.
4. Mr. Kellum shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18 and 19 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.
5. Upon entry of this Order, the Order of Temporary Suspension entered May 1, 2006, is hereby dissolved.
6. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Mr. Kellum shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$599.87 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.
7. The Board shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:



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WILLIAM C. KOCH, JR., JUSTICE