



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAMES LESTER KENNEDY, BPR #005453
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

June 5, 2019

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On June 5, 2019, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending James Lester Kennedy from the practice of law for a three (3) year period, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, and directing payment to the Board for all costs in the disciplinary proceeding.

Mr. Kennedy knowingly made appearances in Knox County Probate Court and filed pleadings in cases pending in New York and Pennsylvania without informing the Court and opposing counsel of his one (1) year suspension on July 20, 2017. In addition to misleading courts and opposing counsel, Mr. Kennedy failed to provide substantive responses to the Board's requests for information regarding the disciplinary complaint. Mr. Kennedy's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law); 3.3 (candor toward the tribunal); 8.1 (bar admissions and disciplinary matters) and 8.4(a), (c), (d) and (g) (misconduct).

Mr. Kennedy was suspended from the practice of law on July 20, 2017, and has not been reinstated by the Supreme Court. Until the entry of an order reinstating Mr. Kennedy's law license, he is precluded from practicing law; using any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant, or law clerk; or maintaining a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

Mr. Kennedy must notify all clients being represented in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel, of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his law license. Mr. Kennedy is required to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

Mr. Kennedy must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.