



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220  
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027  
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500  
(800) 486-5714  
FAX: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: JAMES LESTER KENNEDY, BPR #005453**  
**CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

January 22, 2020

**KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On January 22, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending James Lester Kennedy from the practice of law, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, for a period of two (2) years and requiring payment to the Board for all costs in the disciplinary proceeding. Mr. Kennedy's suspension is to be served consecutive to a three (3) year suspension imposed by the Order of Enforcement entered June 5, 2019.

A Hearing Panel found Mr. Kennedy knowingly engaged in the unauthorized practice of law; knowingly engaged in conduct involving misrepresentations and deceit in dealings with opposing counsel, third parties and his client; knowingly failed to comply with the Order of Enforcement entered by the Supreme Court on July 20, 2017; and knowingly failed to remove the indicia of attorney, lawyer and counselor at law in his correspondence with counsel, the Administratrix and third parties in violation of Rules of Professional Conduct 3.4 (fairness to opposing party and counsel), 4.1 (truthfulness in statements to others), 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law), 8.1(b) (disciplinary matters), and 8.4(a), (c), (d) and (g) (misconduct).

Mr. Kennedy is suspended from the practice of law pursuant to Orders of Enforcement dated July 20, 2017, and June 5, 2019, and 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 until reinstated by the Supreme Court. 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 and must 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.