



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: FLETCHER WHALEY LONG, BPR #18775
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

September 15, 2015

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ATTORNEY DISBARRED

On September 14, 2015, the Tennessee Supreme Court disbarred Fletcher Whaley Long from the practice of law. Pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 23 (2014), the disbarment was entered with the consent of Mr. Long as evidenced by his affidavit. On September 9, 2014, the Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Long based upon three (3) complaints of unethical conduct. A Supplemental Petition for Discipline was filed on June 2, 2015, adding two (2) additional complaints of misconduct. On May 15, 2015, Mr. Long was suspended from the practice of law after being convicted of extortion in violation of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-112, and a Petition for Final Discipline was filed on May 22, 2015.

The Petition and Supplemental Petition alleged Mr. Long charged unreasonable fees; provided incompetent representation; filed meritless claims; failed to perform professional services; failed to provide diligent representation; failed to refund unearned fees; failed to protect client property; made false statements of fact and failed to disclose material facts to a tribunal; threatened criminal prosecution to obtain an advantage in a civil proceeding; failed to properly supervise his co-counsel and knowingly ratified her misconduct; failed to report the professional misconduct of his co-counsel and partner; and engaged in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit and misrepresentations. In addition, five (5) disciplinary complaints were pending before the Board containing allegations similar to those set forth in the Petitions for Discipline.

Mr. Long's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5, Fees; 1.15, Safekeeping of Property and Funds; 3.1, Meritorious Claims and Contentions; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 3.3, Candor Toward the Tribunal; 4.4, Respect for the Rights of Third Persons; 5.1, Responsibilities of Partners, Managers and Supervisory Lawyers; 5.3, Responsibilities Regarding Non-Lawyer Assistants; 1.16, Terminating Representation); 8.3, Reporting Professional Misconduct; 8.1, Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a), Misconduct.

Mr. Long must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) and Sections 28 and 30 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys.