

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: G. THOMAS NEBEL, BPR# 5206
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

March 1, 2011

NASHVILLE LAWYER DISBARRED

On February 25, 2011, G. Thomas Nebel, of Nashville, Tennessee, was disbarred by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Mr. Nebel is required to pay over \$800,000.00 in restitution and unearned fees prior to reinstatement. Further, Mr. Nebel is ordered to complete several other requirements prior to reinstatement including completion of the bar exam and a law office management course. Mr. Nebel must pay the Board's costs in the amount of \$25,278.86 prior to reinstatement.

In addition to this disbarment, Mr. Nebel has been suspended since February 22, 2010, in relation to another disciplinary matter.

After a full evidentiary hearing held July 21st-24th, 2008, a Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Nebel solicited personal loans from two (2) clients using his influence and position as their attorney to secure the loans. Mr. Nebel failed to provide them with sufficient information so that they could make an informed decision and, thus, give informed consent. He failed to advise them to seek independent legal advice regarding the transaction. Further, Mr. Nebel failed to appear for six (6) consecutive hearings in another client's case. Mr. Nebel improperly deducted attorneys' fees from funds paid by a client for costs and expenses of the lawsuit. Finally, Mr. Nebel failed to refund unearned attorneys' fees despite having promised his client that he would do so. Mr. Nebel appealed the decision of the Hearing Panel; however, his petition for writ of certiorari failed to satisfy the requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated 27-8-106 and his appeal was ultimately dismissed.

Mr. Nebel's actions violate the following Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5, Fees; 1.8, Conflict of Interest: Prohibited Transactions; 1.16, Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.4, Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel; and 8.4, Misconduct. Mr. Nebel's actions also violate Disciplinary Rule 5-104.

Mr. Nebel must comply with Sections 18 and 19 of Supreme Court Rule 9 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

Nebel 1491-5.rel.doc

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