



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR# 25042**  
**CONTACT: RANDALL J. SPIVEY**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

January 20, 2010

**NASHVILLE LAWYER RECEIVES PROBATED SUSPENSION**

On January 12, 2010, Dana L. Nero of Nashville, Tennessee, was suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court for a period of one (1) year pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.2, of the Rules of the Supreme Court. However, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 8.5, the imposition of the suspension shall be suspended and Ms. Nero shall be placed on probation for a period of one (1) year.

Ms. Nero violated disciplinary rules by making misleading statements to a bonding company as a result of her arrest on drug related charges. Ms. Nero subsequently completed a pre-trial diversion program. Ms. Nero's actions violated Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 8, Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 (Scope of the Representation and the Allocation of Authority Between the Lawyer and Client), 4.1 (Truthfulness and Candor in Statements to Others), and 8.4 (Misconduct).

Ms. Nero was further ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings against her, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.7, 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.

Nero 1812-5 rel.doc

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**FILED**  
JAN 12 2010  
Clerk of the Courts

**IN RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR #025042**  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

NO. M2009-02621-SC-BPO-BP  
BOPR No. 2009-1812-5-RS

**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility against Respondent, Dana L. Nero, on April 3, 2009; upon an Answer to the Petition for Discipline filed by the Respondent on April 24, 2009; upon the entering of a Conditional Guilty Plea by the Respondent on October 7, 2009; upon the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea by a Hearing Panel on October 28, 2009; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the recommendation of the Hearing Panel and accepts the Conditional Guilty Plea.

It is, therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** by the Court,

1. The Respondent, Dana L. Nero, shall be suspended from the practice of law one (1) year pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.2. However, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 8.5, the imposition of the suspension will be suspended, and Respondent placed on probation for a period of one (1) year upon her compliance with the following conditions.

2. The Respondent shall submit to an evaluation by the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program (TLAP) and follow all recommendations made by TLAP. Further, if TLAP recommends the Respondent enters into a monitoring agreement with TLAP, the Respondent shall enter into a monitoring agreement and remain compliant with the terms of the monitoring agreement through its duration.

3. The Respondent shall employ, at her own expense, a Law Practice Monitor. In the first month of the probation period, the Law Practice Monitor will meet with the Respondent to discuss good time management and office management practices and make suggestions on improving the Respondent's management of his law practice.

4. The Law Practice Monitor shall also meet monthly with the Respondent to review all of the Respondent's open files to insure (1) that the Respondent is meeting all deadlines in each case, (2) that the Respondent is maintaining appropriate attorney/client relationships, and

(3) that the Respondent is communicating candidly and timely with each of her clients. The Law Practice Monitor shall provide monthly reports to Disciplinary Counsel detailing the Respondent's compliance with these conditions.

5. Failure to meet any of the above listed conditions will result in the revocation of the Respondent's probation.

6. Upon revocation of her probation, the Respondent will be required to serve the entirety of the one (1) year suspension beginning ten (10) days from the date of revocation.

7. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 24.3, the Respondent shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$385.00, and in addition, shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days from the entry of this order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

8. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark  
CORNELIA A. CLARK  
JUSTICE

Michael W. Catalano, Clerk, hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original

filed in the cause.

This 12 day of Dec, 2010

By: Michael W. Catalano  
CLERK OF COURT