



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR #25042**  
**CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

October 23, 2013

**DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On October 22, 2013, Dana L. Nero, of Nashville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for three (3) years, with eleven (11) months and twenty-nine (29) days as an active suspension retroactive to June 11, 2012, and the remainder probated. Ms. Nero was ordered to comply with her Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement signed on November 29, 2012. Finally, Ms. Nero must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

A Petition for Discipline was filed on April 2, 2013, alleging that Ms. Nero advised a witness that the witness did not have to appear in court even though she had been subpoenaed, that she failed to communicate with a client and provide him with his file following his conviction, and that she accepted a fee for which she did not perform any service. Ms. Nero entered into a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting to the misconduct.

Ms. Nero's actions violated RPC 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.16(a), and (d), (terminating representation); 3.4 (g) (fairness to opposing party and counsel); 4.3 (dealing with unrepresented person); 4.4 (a) (1) (respect for rights of third persons); 8.1(a) (bar admission and disciplinary matters), and; 8.4(a), (d) and (g) (misconduct).

Ms. Nero must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 19, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Nero 2198-5 rel.doc

**PLEASE NOTE**

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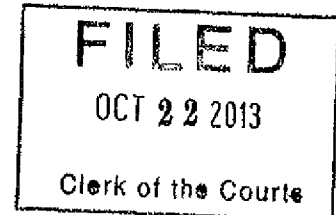
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

**IN RE: DANA L. NERO, BPR #25042**  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Davidson County)

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No. M2013-02308-SC-BAR-BP  
BOPR No. 2013-2198-5-AJ

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Dana L. Nero on April 2, 2013; upon Answer to Petition for Discipline filed by Ms. Nero on April 15, 2013; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Ms. Nero on July 2, 2013; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on July 10, 2013; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 13, 2013; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On June 11, 2012, Ms. Nero was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.3 (Case No. M2012-01169-SC-BPR-BP). On March 4, 2013, Ms. Nero filed a "Petition to Reinstate Attorney License". The parties agreed to consolidate the Petition for Discipline with the request to dissolve the temporary suspension.

It is, therefore, ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2, Dana L. Nero is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years with eleven (11) months and twenty-nine (29) days as an active suspension retroactive to June 11, 2012. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 8.5, the remainder of the suspension shall be probated subject to the following conditions:

(a) Ms. Nero agrees to continue to comply with her Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement signed

on November 29, 2012. Failure to comply with all provisions of the TLAP Monitoring Agreement will result in immediate suspension and imposition of active suspension.

(2) In the event Ms. Nero fails to meet any condition of probation, the probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 8.5.

(3) Additionally, Ms. Nero shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18 and 19 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. Further, the temporary suspension Order entered on June 11, 2012 in Case No. M2012-01169-SC-BPR-BP is hereby dissolved.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Ms. Nero shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$163.16 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(6) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark  
CORNELIA A. CLARK, JUSTICE