

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: HOWARD ROBERT CLYDE ORFIELD: BPR #10567
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 9, 2017

SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On October 9, 2017, Howard Robert Clyde Orfield of Sullivan County, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Mr. Orfield is suspended for a period of three (3) years, consisting of ninety (90) days active suspension and the remainder on probation. Mr. Orfield must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days.

After accepting payments from two clients to represent them in Bankruptcy proceedings, Mr. Orfield ceased communicating with them and failed to perform the services for which he was paid. Mr. Orfield refunded the fee to one client. Mr. Orfield entered a conditional guilty plea that requires him to have a practice monitor during his probation and make restitution to the other client as a condition of reinstatement to the practice of law.

Mr. Orfield's ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.16 (terminating representation), and 8.4 (a) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Orfield must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys, and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.

Orfield 2645-1 rel.doc