



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JERE FRANKLIN OWNBY, III, BPR #14979
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 10, 2017

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

Effective July 7, 2017, the Supreme Court of Tennessee suspended Jere Franklin Ownby, III from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year with thirty (30) days served as an active suspension, and the remainder, upon reinstatement, served on probation pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2. Mr. Ownby's reinstatement and grant of probation is conditioned upon payment of restitution to two (2) clients. Mr. Ownby is required to pay court costs and the costs of the disciplinary proceeding.

A Petition for Discipline was filed February 23, 2017, and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline was filed July 22, 2016, alleging Mr. Ownby missed scheduled deadlines and court appearances in several matters, failed to provide the legal services for which he was retained, and failed to maintain confidentiality. Mr. Ownby admitted his conduct violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence); 1.2 (scope of representation and allocation of authority between client and lawyer); 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.6 (confidentiality); 3.4 (fairness to opposing party and counsel) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Ownby 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 is entered by the Supreme Court.

Ownby 2554-2 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

07/07/2017

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: JERE FRANKLIN OWNBY, III, BPR #14979
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Knox County)

No. M2017-01362-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2016-2554-2-AW

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Jere Franklin Ownby on February 23, 2016; upon Respondent's Answer to the Petition for Discipline filed May 31, 2016; upon the Board's Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed July 22, 2016; upon Respondent's Answer to the Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed November 3, 2016; upon Respondent's Conditional Guilty Plea filed March 27, 2017; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered March 27, 2017; upon the Executive Secretary of the Board's service of the filed Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea to Respondent on March 27, 2017; and upon the Board's approval of the Order on June 9, 2017.

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

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Jere Franklin Ownby, III is suspended from the practice of law for one (1) year with thirty (30) days active and the remainder on probation, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, subject to the following conditions of probation:

- (a) During the period of suspension and probation, Mr. Ownby shall incur no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation and which results in the recommendation by the Board that discipline be imposed.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any reinstatement, Mr. Ownby shall make restitution to the following individuals and shall furnish to the Board of Professional Responsibility proof of restitution. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Ownby shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount:

- a) Sandra Hubbell - \$5,000.00
- b) Allison Streeter - \$5,000.00

(3) In the event Mr. Ownby fails to meet any condition of probation, the probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 14.2 (2014).

(4) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Ownby must have met all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(5) Mr. Ownby shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Ownby shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$2,018.56 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.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(8) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11 (2014).

PER CURIAM