



**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