



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
ARTHUR SCOTT PRATT, # 19855
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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September 11, 2008

JOHNSON CITY LAWYER DISBARRED

On September 8, 2008, Arthur Scott Pratt, of Johnson City, Tennessee, was disbarred by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. The disbarment is retroactive to the date of a prior Order of Temporary Suspension entered on January 23, 2006.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Arthur Scott Pratt pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Mr. Pratt submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea agreeing to accept disbarment. Mr. Pratt violated the Rules of Professional Conduct by advising a client to perjure herself before a Court. He was found in contempt for his actions. Further, Mr. Pratt demonstrated a pattern of failing to appear in court and leaving prematurely. The Court entered an Order commanding Mr. Pratt to be on time, to not leave without permission, and ultimately issued a Show Cause Order. His clients and the judicial system were adversely affected by Mr. Pratt's repeated failure to appear. In another matter, Mr. Pratt entered into a guilty plea on behalf of a client that was not in accordance with the instructions of the client. The effect of the plea agreement increased the client's time in prison and made him ineligible for alternative sentencing and other programs. Further, Mr. Pratt submitted an affidavit to the Court that appears forged. Mr. Pratt left an obscene message on a newspaper reporter's answering machine. He refused to return a file to a client. Finally, Mr. Pratt's website contained misleading information and misleading legal advice.

Mr. Pratt's actions violate the following Rule(s) of Professional Conduct: 1.1, Competence; 1.2(a)(d), Scope of Representation and Allocation of Authority Between Lawyer and Client; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5(a)(d), Fees; 1.6(a), Confidentiality; 1.7(b), Conflict of Interest; 1.15(a)(b), Safekeeping of Property; 1.16(a)(d), Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 3.3, Candor Toward the Tribunal; 3.4(b)(c), Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel; 3.5(e), Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal; 4.1(a), Truthfulness and Candor in Statements to Others; 4.4(a), Respect for the Rights of Third Persons; 7.1(a)(b), Communications Concerning a Lawyer's Services; 8.2(a), Judicial and Legal Officials; and 8.4(b)(c)(d), Misconduct. Mr. Pratt is also ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceedings.

Mr. Pratt must comply with the requirements of Rule 9, § 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court should he seek reinstatement of his Tennessee law license and he may not resume practice until reinstated by further order of this Court.

Pratt 1620-1 rel.doc

PLEASE NOTE

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