

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION RE: KEISHA MOSES RICHARDSON, BPR #026492 <u>CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON</u> BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY <u>615-361-7500</u>

October 13, 2021

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On October 13, 2021, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended Keisha Moses Richardson, of Memphis, Tennessee, from the practice of law for two (2) years retroactive to the date of her temporary suspension, January 26, 2018, and indefinitely until she complies with the Court's Order entered on November 17, 2017. Ms. Richardson must pay restitution to three (3) former clients as a condition of reinstatement to the practice of law. She must also pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety (90) days of the date of the order. The Court's order is effective immediately.

The Board filed a Petition for Discipline, Supplemental Petition for Discipline and Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline against Ms. Richardson. She filed an answer to the Petition for Discipline, and default judgments were entered against her on the Supplemental Petition for Discipline and Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline.

The Petitions for Discipline included seven (7) complaints of misconduct. A Hearing Panel found that she violated the Rules of Professional Conduct in six (6) of the complaints. Ms. Richardson charged an unreasonable fee, failed to expedite litigation, stopped communicating with her clients, violated a court order concerning custody of her child, engaged in the unauthorized practice of law while administratively suspended and failed to respond to disciplinary counsel.

The Hearing Panel found that Ms. Richardson violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence), 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.16(d) (declining or terminating representation), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 3.4(c) (failure to obey obligation under rules of tribunal), 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law), 8.1(b) (disciplinary matters), and 8.4 (misconduct).

Ms. Richardson must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. Richardson 2662-9 rel.doc