

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
09/11/2023
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: BRIAN CHADWICK RICKMAN, BPR NO. 017534
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

No. M2023-01224-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2021-3212-9-JB

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Brian Chadwick Rickman on November 30, 2021; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed against Mr. Rickman on November 29, 2022; upon a Motion for Default Judgment and That Charges in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed on November 30, 2022; upon an Order Granting Motion for Default and That Charges in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted entered on January 13, 2023; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Rickman on May 25, 2023; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on May 30, 2023; upon service of the Order Approving Conditional Guilty Plea on Mr. Rickman by the Executive Secretary of the Board of Professional Responsibility (“Board”) on May 30, 2023; upon the Board voting on June 9, 2023, to approve the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea by the Hearing Panel; upon acceptance of referral by TLAP; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which, the Court approves the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered by the Hearing Panel on May 30, 2023, and adopts the Hearing Panel’s Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea.

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

(1) Mr. Rickman is hereby suspended from the practice of law for five (5) years pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, with two (2) years active suspension, and the remainder shall be served on probation. The grant of probation is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Respondent, at his cost, if any, shall engage the services of a Practice Monitor who shall be selected and approved in accordance with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The Respondent shall, in utilizing a Practice Monitor, comply with all requirements as contained in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The Practice Monitor shall meet with Respondent monthly and assess Respondent's caseload, case management, timeliness of performing tasks, adequacy of communication with clients, and accounting procedures. The Practice Monitor shall provide a monthly written report of Respondent's progress to the Board.
- (b) Respondent shall, within ten (10) days of the entry of this Order of Enforcement, contact the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) for evaluation and cooperate fully with TLAP to complete the evaluation process in a timely manner. In the event TLAP determines a monitoring agreement is appropriate, Mr. Rickman shall immediately execute said monitoring agreement and thereafter comply with the terms and conditions of the TLAP monitoring agreement. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 36.1, TLAP shall timely notify the Board of any failure by Mr. Rickman to establish contact with TLAP, cooperate with the evaluation process, execute the recommended monitoring agreement, or substantially comply with the terms and conditions of the executed monitoring agreement. Mr. Rickman shall execute the appropriate release to allow TLAP to communicate with the Board regarding any monitoring agreement.

(2) In the event Respondent fails to meet or maintain any condition of probation, probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 14.2.

(3) Mr. Rickman 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.

(4) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Rickman 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. In addition, Mr. Rickman shall be in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Rickman shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs incurred to date by the Board in this matter in the amount of \$2,374.50. Mr. Rickman shall be assessed an additional \$100.00 fee for the cost of filing this matter and pay this filing fee to the Board and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the court costs incurred herein. All Board costs, fees, and expenses awarded or assessed herein, and all court costs assessed shall be paid within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for which execution, if necessary, may issue.

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

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

PER CURIAM