



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAMES D. R. ROBERTS, JR., BPR #17537
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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March 8, 2016

DAVIDSON COUNTY ATTORNEY SUSPENDED

On March 8, 2016, James D. R. Roberts, Jr., of Nashville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for a period of six (6) months. Mr. Roberts was also ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceedings to the Board and to the Court. The suspension shall begin on March 18, 2016.

On March 9, 2009, the Board of Professional Responsibility ("Board") filed a Petition for Discipline against Mr. Roberts alleging that he gave false testimony while testifying before the Davidson County Chancery Court. The complaint arises from Mr. Roberts' representation of a client in a declaratory judgment action involving a family company and Mr. Roberts' attempts to stop the sale of company stock. Mr. Roberts made several efforts to stop the sale, including a plan to use a friend to assert an interest in the sale. When opposing counsel sought a finding of contempt against Mr. Roberts for his efforts to interfere with the sale, Mr. Roberts falsely testified about his role in the plan to stop the sale.

A hearing panel determined that Mr. Roberts' conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 3.3(a)(1) and (b), Candor Toward the Tribunal; 4.4(a), Respect for the Rights of Third Persons; and 8.4(a)(c) and (d), Misconduct. Mr. Roberts filed an appeal on October 21, 2011. The decision of the hearing panel was affirmed. Mr. Roberts sought further appeal to the Tennessee Supreme Court; however, the appeal was dismissed on January 26, 2016 as untimely.

Mr. Roberts must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys. Mr. Roberts must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 30.4 (2014) regarding the procedure for reinstatement.