



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: GEORGE E. SKOUTERIS, JR., BPR# 13417
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

April 22, 2015

MEMPHIS LAWYER DISBARRED

On April 21, 2015, George Ernest Skouteris, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, was disbarred by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. This sanction shall run concurrently with a previous disbarment imposed on February 21, 2014. Mr. Skouteris was also ordered to pay restitution to a former client and to pay the Board's costs and expenses.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed Petition for Discipline containing one (1) complaint of misconduct and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline containing one (1) complaint of misconduct. In the first complaint, Mr. Skouteris failed to respond to the client's numerous emails and telephone calls, ignoring her requests for status updates. Finally, the client investigated the matter and discovered that the statute of limitations for her cause expired on October 8, 2010, and that Mr. Skouteris never filed a lawsuit. Without her knowledge, Mr. Skouteris had settled the case for \$10,480.00 and he later informed her that the money had been in his trust account for months. This money was deposited in his trust account, but the balance of the account dropped below what he should have been holding in trust. In the second complaint, Mr. Skouteris was hired in a personal injury case. Mr. Skouteris failed to use a written fee agreement for the contingency fee. Further, he failed to consult and notify his clients about settlements he accepted. Mr. Skouteris made slow installment payments of the funds without adequately communicating with his clients about the total funds due to them. Mr. Skouteris entered into a Conditional Guilty plea admitting to this misconduct.

His actions violate the following Rule(s) of Professional Conduct: 1.1; Competence; 1.2(a), Scope of Representation; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5(a-c), Fees; 1.15(a) and (c), Safekeeping Property; 4.1(a), Truthfulness in Statements to Others; 5.5(a), Unauthorized Practice of Law; 8.1(b), Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a), (c), and (d).

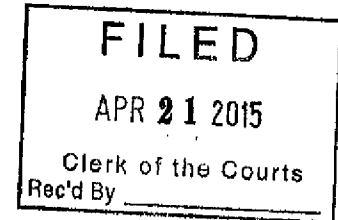
Mr. Skouteris must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) and Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 30.4 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: GEORGE ERNEST SKOUTERIS, JR., BPR #13417
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

No. M2015-00706-SC-BAR-BP

BOPR No. 2013-2268-9-KH



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against George Ernest Skouteris, Jr., November 18, 2013; upon Mr. Skouteris' Answer of Respondent filed January 6, 2014; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed October 22, 2014; upon Mr. Skouteris' Conditional Guilty Plea filed November 6, 2014; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered November 14, 2014; upon an Amended Conditional Guilty Plea filed January 27, 2015; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Amended Conditional Guilty Plea entered March 2, 2015; upon consideration and approval by the Board of Professional Responsibility on March 13, 2015; and upon the entire record in this cause.¹

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Amended Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On February 21, 2014, this Court entered a Judgment disbaring George E. Skouteris, Jr., from the practice of law in Docket No. W2013-01254-SC-R3-BP. The disbarment remains in full force and effect.

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

1. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 4.1 (2006) and 12.1 (2014), George Ernest Skouteris, Jr., is disbarred. The disbarment entered herein shall run concurrently with the prior disbarment imposed by this Court on February 21, 2014.

¹ This case includes matters initiated before the Board prior to January 1, 2014 and after January 1, 2014. Therefore, both the 2006 and 2014 versions of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9 are applicable.

2. Further, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 4.7 (2006) and 12.7 (2014), Mr. Skouteris shall make restitution to Earnest Jones and Dawn Barnett in the amount of \$5,300.00. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection ("TLFCP"), Mr. Skouteris will be responsible for reimbursement to the TLFCP in the same amount. Payment of restitution is a condition precedent to reinstatement.
3. Additionally, Mr. Skouteris shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18 (2006), 28 (2014) and 30.4 (2014) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Skouteris must meet all CLE requirements and pay any outstanding registration fees including those due from the date of disbarment until the date of reinstatement.
4. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 24.3 (2006) and 31.3 (2014), Mr. Skouteris shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$520.00 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.
5. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18.10 (2006) and 28.11 (2014).

PER CURIAM