



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: GEORGE ERNEST SKOUTERIS, JR., BPR #13417
CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

February 9, 2016

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

On February 9, 2016, George Ernest Skouteris, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, was disbarred from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. As a condition of reinstatement, Mr. Skouteris must make restitution to two former clients. The disbarment begins on February 9, 2016. Mr. Skouteris must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

Mr. Skouteris represented a husband and wife as a result of a 2007 automobile accident. In 2010, he agreed to a settlement with one insurer in the amount of \$7,974 and with another in the amount of \$8,500. He did not have his clients' authority to agree to the settlements nor did he tell them about the settlements. He signed their names to the settlement checks without their knowledge or consent and deposited them to his trust account. Over time, he misappropriated the settlement funds. He avoided his clients' efforts to communicate with him over the years and then, in 2014, he led them to believe their lawsuit was ongoing. He failed to advise them that he had been previously disbarred in 2014.

Mr. Skouteris' ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2(a), Scope of Representation; 1.4, Communication; 1.15(a) and (d), Safekeeping Property and Funds; 8.1(b), Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a), (b), (c) and (g), Misconduct.

Mr. Skouteris was previously disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court on February 21, 2014 and April 21, 2015, and remains disbarred.

Mr. Skouteris must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys.