

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MICHAEL CONSTANTINE SKOUTERIS, BPR #017566
CONTACT: BRITTANY LAVALLE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

May 7, 2020

## SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

Effective May 7, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Michael Constantine Skouteris from the practice of law and ordered restitution in the amount of \$1,023,344.70 and costs of the disciplinary proceeding be paid.

This order is based upon a Petition for Discipline, Supplemental Petition for Discipline, Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline, and Third Supplemental Petition for Discipline involving nineteen (19) separate disciplinary complaints.

Mr. Skouteris submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea on February 18, 2020, admitting he knowingly and intentionally misappropriated client funds received in the settlement of personal injury litigation claims; knowingly misled clients regarding the status of their cases and the filing of pleadings, and failed to communicate. Mr. Skouteris forged client signatures on settlement paperwork and began new representations while temporarily suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Skouteris admitted violating Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.2 (Scope of Representation and Allocation of Authority Between Client and Lawyer), 1.3 (Diligence), 1.4 (Communication), 1.5 (Fees), 1.15 (Safekeeping Property and Funds), 1.16 (Declining or Terminating Representation), 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal), 3.4 (Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel), 4.1 (Truthfulness in Statements to Others), 5.5 (Unauthorized Practice of Law), 8.1 (Disciplinary Matters), and 8.4 (Misconduct).

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 and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.

Skouteris 2663-9 rel.doc