



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: PAUL JAMES SPRINGER, BPR #021267**  
**CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

October 2, 2018

**SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED**

Effective October 2, 2018, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Paul James Springer from the practice of law and ordered him to pay restitution to clients totaling \$21,855.00. A Petition for Discipline consisting of four (4) complaints was filed February 14, 2017, and a Supplemental Petition consisting of seven (7) complaints was filed August 14, 2017.

After a hearing upon the disciplinary petitions, a Hearing Panel determined Mr. Springer failed to reasonably communicate with his clients, failed to attend scheduled meetings, failed to notify clients of court dates, failed to respond to motions, discovery requests, and show cause orders, continued to practice law after suspension of his license, failed to notify clients of his suspension, failed to withdraw as attorney of record, failed to refund unearned retainers, failed to provide substantive professional services to his clients, failed to file suit in a timely manner, and made material misrepresentations to clients regarding the status of their case.

Mr. Springer's professional misconduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence); 1.2 (scope of representation and allocation of authority between client and lawyer); 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.7 (conflict of interest); 1.16 (declining or terminating representation); 4.2 (communication with a person represented by counsel); 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters); and 8.4 (misconduct).

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

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

10/02/2018

Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: PAUL JAMES SPRINGER, #021267**  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Shelby County)

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**No. M2018-01730-SC-BAR-BP**  
BOPR No. 2017-2683-9-AW

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Paul James Springer on February 14, 2017; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed August 14, 2017; upon a Renewed Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Petition for Discipline and Supplemental Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed November 29, 2017; upon the Hearing Panel's Order for Default Judgment entered December 15, 2017; upon Mr. Springer's Motion to Set Aside the Hearing Panel's Order Granting the Board's Motion for Default Judgment filed January 24, 2018; upon the final hearing in this matter held January 25, 2018; upon the Hearing Panel's Order Directing the Production of Additional Evidence Regarding Proof of Restitution to Clients entered January 25, 2018; upon the Board's Notice of Filing of the Affidavit of A. Russell Willis filed January 30, 2018; upon the Hearing Panel's Order on Motions entered February 7, 2017; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered March 13, 2018; upon service of the Judgment of the Hearing Panel on Mr. Springer by the Executive Secretary of the Board on March 14, 2018; upon the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs filed March 26, 2018; upon the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered April 11, 2018; upon service of the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs on Mr. Springer by the Executive Secretary of the Board on April 11, 2018; upon Mr. Springer's Motion to Set Aside or Alter or Amend the Hearing Panel's Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law and Order on Discipline filed May 7, 2018; upon the Response of Board in Opposition to Respondent's Motion to Set Aside or Alter or Amend the Hearing Panel's Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law and Order on Discipline filed June 19, 2018; upon the Order Denying Motion to Alter or Amend the Hearing Panel's Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law and Order on Discipline entered June 22, 2018; upon service of the Order Denying Motion to Alter or Amend the Hearing Panel's Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law and Order on Discipline on Mr. Springer by the Executive Secretary of the Board on June 22, 2018; upon approval of the

Judgment of the Hearing Panel by the Board of Professional Responsibility on May 3, 2018; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered March 13, 2018, and the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered April 11, 2018, and adopts the same as the Court's Order.

On June 23, 2016, Mr. Springer was suspended by this Court for two (2) years and sixty (60) days pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2 (Case No. M2016-01120-SC-BPR-BP) and has not been granted reinstatement to the practice of law.

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

(1) Mr. Springer is disbarred from the practice of law pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.1.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any application for reinstatement, Mr. Springer shall make restitution to the following individuals and shall furnish to the Board of Professional Responsibility proof of restitution. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Springer shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount.

- (a) Mardi Coston-Jackson, \$6,000.00
- (b) Courtnie Bell, \$755.00
- (c) Monica Burress (Auldon Burress Bowie), \$3,500.00
- (d) Eldridge Hill, Jr., \$5,000.00
- (e) Guylon Greer, \$6,000.00
- (f) Kenneth Jackson, \$600.00

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Springer 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 disbarment until the date of reinstatement, and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(4) Additionally, Mr. Springer shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Springer shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,692.05 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.

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

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

PER CURIAM