



**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

May 22, 2020

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

Effective May 22, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Paul James Springer from the practice of law and ordered him to pay restitution to three clients in the amount of \$59,250, and expenses and costs of this matter to the Board in the amount of \$1,939.12.

Three Petitions for Discipline containing a total of five complaints were filed against Mr. Springer. A Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Springer misappropriated settlement funds belonging to his client; engaged in criminal conduct as well as conduct involving dishonesty, deceit, misrepresentations and fraud; made material misrepresentations to his clients; failed to reasonably communicate with his clients; engaged in the unauthorized practice of law and failed to notify clients of his suspension and withdraw as attorney of record.

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); 1.15 (safekeeping property and funds); 1.16 (declining or terminating representation); 4.2 (communication with a person represented by counsel); 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law); 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters); and 8.4 (a), (b), (c), and (g) (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.