



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JUDITH-ANNE ROSS ST. CLAIR, BPR #034024
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 20, 2018

COFFEE COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 20, 2018, Judith-Anne Ross St. Clair was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for three (3) years, with six (6) months to be served as an active suspension, and the remainder to be served on probation subject to the following: Ms. St. Clair must continue to be in compliance with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) monitoring agreement and follow any and all recommendation; make restitution prior to seeking reinstatement; engage a practice monitor; and commit no further acts of misconduct resulting in a recommendation of discipline. Ms. St. Clair must pay the Board's costs and expenses.

A Petition for Discipline was filed against Ms. St. Clair concerning multiple complaints of misconduct. Prior to the final hearing, Ms. St. Clair entered into a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting that on April 10, 2017, she was arrested for a schedule II drug violation in a drug free school zone. Ms. St. Clair entered a plea to amended lesser charges, received judicial diversion, and a suspended sentence of eleven (11) months and 29 days. During the period of her arrest and subsequent drug treatment, Ms. St. Clair failed to communicate with her clients, failed to provide diligent legal services, and abandoned their cases. Ms. St. Clair has made restitution to two clients and has agreed to make restitution to a third client.

Ms. St. Clair has admitted violating Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communications; 1.5, Fees; 1.15, Safekeeping Property; and 8.4(a),(b), and (d), Misconduct.

Ms. St. Clair must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
07/20/2018
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: JUDITH-ANNE ROSS ST. CLAIR, BPR #034024
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Coffee County)

No. M2018-01313-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2017-2794-4-KH

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Judith-Anne Ross St. Clair on November 17, 2017; upon Answer of Respondent filed on January 11, 2018; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Ms. St. Clair on June 27, 2018; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on July 5, 2018; upon notice to the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program on June 21, 2018; upon consideration and approval by the Board on July 11, 2018; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves and adopts the hearing panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

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

(1) Judith-Anne Ross St. Clair is suspended from the practice of law for three (3) years with six (6) months to be served as an active suspension, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, and the remainder to be served on probation subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Ms. St. Clair shall continue to be in compliance with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) monitoring agreement and follow any and all recommendations of TLAP. Further, Ms. St. Clair shall give TLAP permission to communicate with the Board regarding any monitoring agreement.
- (b) Ms. St. Clair shall make restitution in the amount of \$4,000.00 to Teri Tate prior to seeking reinstatement. To the extent restitution is paid by the

Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection ("TLFCP"), Ms. St. Clair shall reimburse TLFCP for said amount and shall remain obligated to the individual(s) listed above for any unpaid restitution.

(c) Ms. St. Clair, at her cost, if any, shall engage the services of a Practice Monitor who shall be selected and approved in accordance with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.9(c). The Practice Monitor shall meet with Ms. St. Clair monthly and assess Ms. St. Clair's case load, case management, timeliness of performing tasks, adequacy of communication with clients and accounting procedures. The Practice Monitor shall provide a monthly written report of Ms. St. Clair's progress to Disciplinary Counsel.

(2) In the event Ms. St. Clair fails to meet any condition of probation, the probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 14.2. During the period of active suspension and probation, Ms. St. Clair shall incur no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation that results in the recommendation by the Board that discipline be imposed.

(3) Ms. St. Clair shall apply for reinstatement pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 30.4. Probation shall not commence until the Supreme Court enters an order of reinstatement pursuant to that section.

(4) Reinstatement to the active practice of law shall be conditioned upon Ms. St. Clair meeting all CLE requirements, payment of all registration fees due and owing, payment of all professional privilege taxes due and owing, payment of all Board costs assessed in this matter and payment of all court costs taxed in this matter.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Ms. St. Clair shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$368.55 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) 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