

# BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: KATHY STILLMAN, BPR# 20298
CONTACT: RANDALL J. SPIVEY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 6, 2010

#### KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 1, 2010, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended the law license of Kathy Stillman, a Knoxville attorney, for one (1) year pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.2. Ms. Stillman was also ordered to pay restitution to twelve (12) clients for a total amount of \$16,160.00 prior to seeking reinstatement to the practice of law. Ms. Stillman violated disciplinary rules in fifteen (15) separate complaints by failing to communicate with her clients, failing to diligently represent her clients, accepting monies from clients and failing to perform any legal services whatsoever, and failing to respond to the requests of Disciplinary Counsel for the Board of Professional Responsibility. Ms. Stillman's actions violated Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 8, Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (Diligence), 1.4 (Communication), 1.5 (Fees), 8.1 (Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters) and 8.4 (Misconduct).

Ms. Stillman was furthered ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings against her, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 4.7, of the Rules of the Supreme Court and fully comply in all respects with the requirements and obligations of suspended attorneys as set forth in Rule 9, Section 18.1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Stillman 1836-2 rel2.doc

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# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

## IN RE: KATHY STILLMAN, BPR # 20298

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee (Knox County)

FILED

JUL 01 2010

Clerk of the Courts

No. M2010 - 614-11-5C-B90-69 BOPR No. 2009-1836-2-RS

### ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed by Disciplinary Counsel against Respondent, Kathy Stillman, on August 19, 2009; upon a Supplemental Petition for Discipline filed on October 6, 2009; upon an Order Granting Default Judgment and Deeming Facts Admitted entered by the Hearing Panel on December 7, 2009; upon the hearing held March 10, 2010, at which Respondent appeared and testified; upon the Judgment and Recommendation of the Hearing Panel entered on March 15, 2010; upon the approval of the Board of Professional Responsibility on April 5, 2010; and upon the entire record in this cause. The Respondent has not appealed.

The Respondent in this case is currently suspended from the practice of law based upon her failure to comply with continuing legal education requirements, her failure to pay appropriate fees and, by Order of Temporary Suspension entered January 25, 2010, her failure to respond to a subsequent complaint filed against her in Case No. M2010-00163-SC-BPR-BP.

From all of which the Court approves the recommendation of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Judgment and Recommendation of the Hearing Panel as the Court's Order.

It is, therefore, ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Court,

- 1. That the Respondent, Kathy Stillman, shall be suspended for one (1) year pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 4.2.
- 2. That the Respondent's reinstatement to the practice of law after the expiration of her suspension shall be conditioned upon the Respondent first paying restitution to the following complainants as set forth below:

Michael Fitzgerald Beth LaSuer \$4,600.00

\$ 180.00

Jessica Borum	\$1,100.00
Robert Qualls	\$ 500.00
Misty Denson	\$1,400.00
Michael Benns	\$1,600.00
Alfred and Patricia Reeder	\$1,200.00
Barbara Garrison	\$2,500.00
Sherrill Ogle	\$ 530.00
Karissa Stinnett	\$1,000.00
Billie Joe Allen-Hall	\$ 800.00
Paul Branson	\$ 750.00

- That the Respondent's reinstatement to the practice of law after the expiration of her suspension shall be further conditioned upon the Respondent undergoing an evaluation by the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program.
- That, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 24.3, the Respondent shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,286.47, and in addition, shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days from the entry of this order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.
- That upon entry of this Order, the Order of Temporary Suspension in Case No. M2010-00163-SC-BPR-BP entered on January 25, 2010, remains in place until that matter is resolved. Prior to reinstatement of Respondent to the active practice of law, she must comply with all steps required under Section 19.1 for reinstatement, must satisfactorily resolve all matters involved in Case No. M2010-00163-SC-BPR-BP, and must meet all CLE and payment requirements.
- 6. That the Respondent shall comply in all aspects with Rule 9, §18 of the Rules of the Supreme Court regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.
- 7. That pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.5, this order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of its entry.
- 8. That the Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.10.

FOR THE COURT:

CORNELIA A. CLARKI, Michael W. Catalano, Clerki, hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original JUSTICE

filed in the cause.