

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: KIMBERLY OGDEN SUTTON, BPR #025715
CONTACT: JERRY MORGAN
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

September 11, 2020

## TENNESSEE LAWYER PERMANENTLY DISBARRED

Effective September 11, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court permanently disbarred Kimberly Ogden Sutton of Bentonville, Arkansas from the practice of law. Ms. Sutton consented to disbarment because she could not successfully defend the charges alleged in complaints filed against her with the Board.

Ms. Sutton represented six clients in immigration related matters. Ms. Sutton was paid to provide legal services but failed to complete such services. Ms. Sutton collected fees which were not yet earned, and which should have remained in her trust account. Ms. Sutton effectively terminated her representation of the clients without notification to them and without returning client files or unearned fees. Ms. Sutton abandoned her legal practice without providing sufficient client protection. Ms. Sutton failed to respond to the disciplinary complaints filed against her and was temporarily suspended as a result. Ms. Sutton failed to comply with the notification requirements of suspended attorneys.

Ms. Sutton's ethical misconduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.15 (safekeeping property), 1.16 (terminating representation), 3.4(c) (disobeying obligations under rules of a tribunal), 8.1 (disciplinary matters), and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct).

Ms. Sutton must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys.

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