



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: DOUGLAS A. TRANT, BPR #006871
CONTACT: ERIC A. FULLER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

March 26, 2025

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED

Effective March 26, 2025, the Supreme Court of Tennessee permanently disbarred attorney Douglas A. Trant from the practice of law and ordered him to pay all costs and fees of the Board of Professional Responsibility.

After a hearing upon the disciplinary petition, a Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Trant was retained by clients in two (2) separate matters to potentially pursue specific legal objectives, that were dependent on the outcome of initial research to establish whether they had viable causes of action. In the first case, the client sought to challenge the constitutionality of a statutory provision; in the second case, a client sought to have a 1997 criminal plea reversed. In both cases, Mr. Trant accepted a fee to conduct initial research, performed only minimal legal research, and discovered that neither client had a meritorious claim or viable cause of action.

Regardless, Mr. Trant then falsely stated to each client that their cases had merit and thereafter accepted additional and more substantial fees to initiate litigation but took no further action on behalf of his clients. Mr. Trant never filed a complaint or initiated litigation, ceased all communication, failed to refund the unearned fees, failed to return client files, and abandoned his clients and their cases, causing substantial injury or potential injury to his clients.

The appointed Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Trant's actions and omissions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication); 1.5 (fees); 1.16 (declining or terminating representation); and 8.4(c) (misconduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation) and recommended disbarment.

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

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