



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: REBECCA C. VERNETTI, BPR #22870**  
**CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

March 28, 2014

**KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On March 21, 2014, Rebecca C. Vernetti, of Knoxville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for three (3) years and ordered to pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

A Petition for Discipline was filed on April 10, 2013, alleging Ms. Vernetti made misrepresentations to the court and opposing counsel, failed to maintain disputed funds in her trust account, used disputed funds for her personal benefit, shared legal fees with a non-attorney husband and failed to maintain professional independence. Ms. Vernetti entered into a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting her misconduct.

Ms. Vernetti's unethical conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15 (safekeeping property and funds); 3.3 (candor toward the tribunal); 4.1 (truthfulness in statements to others); 5.4 (professional independence of a lawyer); and 8.4 (misconduct).

Ms. Vernetti must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Vernetti 2200-2 rel.doc

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