

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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

August 13, 2015

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On August 11, 2015, Rebecca C. (Vernetti) Kaman, formerly of Knoxville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for one (1) year to be served consecutive to a three (3) year suspension entered on March 21, 2014, and ordered to pay restitution to two former clients. Ms. Kaman is required to pay the Board's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement. The Supreme Court's Order is effective upon entry.

A Petition for Discipline was filed on May 21, 2014, and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline was filed on November 14, 2014, containing four (4) separate complaints of misconduct. In the complaints, Ms. Kaman failed to reasonably communicate with her clients; filed initial pleadings in the wrong court resulting in sanctions being imposed upon her client; failed to refile the Petition in Circuit Court as she represented would be done; failed to refund any fees or provide an accounting; failed to serve a complaint and, thereafter, failed to respond to an Order to Show Cause or inform her client of the pending Order. Ms. Kaman filed a Notice of Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice without authority from her client and misrepresented the case was pending. Ms. Kaman also failed to respond to the Board of Professional Responsibility.

Ms. Kaman entered a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting she violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.16 (terminating representation), 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters) and 8.4 (misconduct).

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

Vernetti 2321-2 rel.doc