



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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May 16, 2008

GREENVILLE ATTORNEY DISBARRED

Lawrence A. Welch, Jr., a Greenville attorney, has been disbarred by Mandate of the Tennessee Supreme Court, filed March 13, 2008. The Court disbarred Welch based upon a Petition for Discipline and Supplemental Petitions for Discipline alleging the following actions by Welch: misuse of his deceased father's and mother's credit cards for Welch's own personal benefit; preparing and recording a Warranty Deed and Affidavit reflecting Welch as co-owner of his mother's condominium without the knowledge or consent of his mother, eventually requiring the mother's filing suit against Welch; encouraging Plaintiffs to file a sexual harassment lawsuit based upon fabricated charges; neglecting a client's case; failing to communicate with a client and opposing counsel; and misleading clients to believe that Welch had filed their lawsuit when he had not.

A Hearing Panel heard the Board's charges against Welch and recommended Welch be disbarred. Welch filed an appeal of the Hearing Panel's Judgment but the appeal was dismissed by Senior Judge Jon Kerry Blackwood. Welch appealed to the Supreme Court but Welch's appeal was dismissed by Mandate filed by the Supreme Court on March 13, 2008.

This disciplinary matter was held pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 8 and 9. In Tennessee, disbarred lawyers may apply for reinstatement of their law licenses after a minimum of five years has passed. To be reinstated, lawyers must carry the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence, and show that the reinstatement will not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the Bar, the administration of justice or subversive to the public interest.

Welch 1266-1 rel.doc

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