



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
LAWRENCE A. WELCH, JR., BPR #14684
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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GREENEVILLE LAWYER DISBARRED

On October 31, 2006, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an Order disbaring Lawrence A. Welch, Jr. from the practice of law; ordering Welch to make restitution to a client or estate in the amount of \$25,000 and ordering that the Board of Professional Responsibility notify the District Attorney of Welch's apparent conversion.

Disciplinary Counsel filed a Petition for Discipline against Welch pursuant to Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. On July 25, 2006, a Hearing Panel heard the Board's charges and filed its findings recommending Welch be disbarred, make restitution in the amount of \$25,000 and notify the District Attorney of Welch's apparent conversion. Neither the Board of Professional Responsibility nor Welch appealed the Hearing Panel's Findings.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Welch to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's Order disbaring him. Section 18 also requires Welch to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

This disciplinary matter was held pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 8 and 9. Tennessee disbarred lawyers may, after the passage of five (5) years, apply for reinstatement of their law licenses. To succeed with a reinstatement, lawyers must carry their burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence that their reinstatement will not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the bar or the administration of justice or subversive to the public interest.

Welch 1497-1 rel.doc

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