



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FA24: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MICHAEL LEE WEST, BPR #1868
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

August 19, 2016

HAMILTON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

Effective August 17, 2016, Michael Lee West, of Hamilton County, Tennessee, was suspended for one (1) year by the Tennessee Supreme Court, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2 and ordered to pay the Board's costs.

On March 30, 2016, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. West based upon one (1) complaint of misconduct. Mr. West, while suspended from the practice of law, failed to take appropriate action to withdraw as attorney of record from a pending case in General Sessions Court and failed to notify his client of the suspension from the practice of law. As a consequence, the notice of trial was sent to Mr. West who failed to take appropriate action or inform his client of the trial date. A default judgment was entered against the client. After learning of the final judgment, Mr. West accepted personal responsibility and reached an agreement with opposing counsel to make monthly payments on the judgment. Eventually, the client retained new counsel who successfully set aside the judgment.

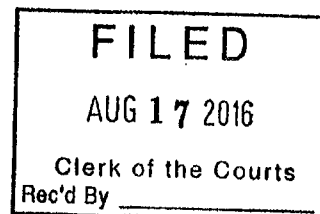
Mr. West executed a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting his conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.4 (communication); 1.16 (declining or terminating representation); 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law) and 8.4(g) (misconduct).

Mr. West must comply with Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4 (2014) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. Mr. West must pay the Board's costs and expenses prior to reinstatement to the practice of law.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: MICHAEL LEE WEST, BPR #1868
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Hamilton County)

No. M2016-01637-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2016-2568-3-AW



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Michael Lee West on March 30, 2016; upon an Answer to Petition for Discipline filed by Mr. West on May 16, 2016; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. West on July 12, 2016; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered by the Hearing Panel on July 20, 2016; upon the Board's consideration and approval of the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea on July 26, 2016; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court accepts the recommendation of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On November 24, 2014, Mr. West was disbarred by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3 (M2014-00387-SC-BAR-BP). To date, Mr. West has not been granted reinstatement from the disbarment.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, the law license of Michael Lee West is suspended for one (1) year.

(2) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. West must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(3) Mr. West shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. West shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$300.93 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(6) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM