

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 FAX: (615) 367-2480 E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: WILLIAM T. WINCHESTER, BPR #21282
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

June 18, 2013

FORMER MEMPHIS ATTORNEY DISBARRED

On May 21, 2013, the Tennessee Supreme Court entered an Order of Enforcement disbarring William T. Winchester, formerly of Memphis, Tennessee, from the practice of law. Mr. Winchester is also ordered to pay restitution to five (5) former clients. Since August 5, 2011, Mr. Winchester has been serving a two (2) year suspension from the practice of law in another case of misconduct. On December 3, 2010, Mr. Winchester was suspended for failure to pay professional privilege tax. On August 31, 2011, Mr. Winchester was suspended for failing to comply with continuing legal education requirements. To date, Mr. Winchester has not been reinstated from these suspensions.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline on February 25, 2010 against Mr. Winchester based upon ten (10) complaints of ethical misconduct alleging lack of diligence, lack of communication, incompetent representation, misrepresentations to clients, misrepresentations made to other lawyers, and misrepresentations made to the Board. Mr. Winchester also abandoned his law practice. A Hearing Panel determined that Mr. Winchester should be disbarred for his misconduct. Mr. Winchester's appeal of the Hearing Panel Judgment to the Chancery Court for Shelby County was dismissed.

Mr. Winchester's ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.5 (fees); 1.15 (safekeeping property); 1.16 (declining and terminating representation); 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters); and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Winchester must comply in all respects with the requirements and obligations of disbarred attorneys as set forth in Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 19. He may not resume the practice of law until reinstated by further order of this Court.

Winchester 1902-9 rel.doc

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