

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CHARLES RANDY PETTIGREW, BPR# 6601
CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 17, 2014

MADISON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 3, 2014, Charles Randy Pettigrew, of Jackson, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for three (3) years, retroactive to May 16, 2013. Mr. Pettigrew must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

The Board filed a Petition for Discipline on June 26, 2013 and a Supplemental Petition for Discipline on October 7, 2013. The petitions contained three (3) complaints of misconduct related to Mr. Pettigrew's failure to supervise a non-lawyer assistant to whom he had given significant authority over his trust account. Mr. Pettigrew exercised very little supervision of his assistant's use of the trust account. The assistant engaged in a pattern of inappropriately transferring significant sums of money between the trust and operating accounts. The assistant misappropriated approximately \$74,000 from a trust account. Thereafter, the assistant engaged in kiting checks between Mr. Pettigrew's trust accounts for months in an effort to conceal the misappropriations. As a result of the misappropriations, the sellers in a real estate transaction did not receive the purchase money. In addition, funds belonging to two other clients were missing from the trust account. The losses have all been made whole by Mr. Pettigrew's malpractice insurer.

Mr. Pettigrew's ethical misconduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 5.3(b), Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants and 8.4(a), Misconduct. Mr. Pettigrew must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) and Section 30 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

Pettigrew 2232-7 rel.doc

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