

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JAMES F. TAYLOR, BPR #018998
CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 8, 2013

HAWKINS COUNTY ATTORNEY DISBARRED AND ORDERED TO PAY RESTITUTION

On January 7, 2013, James Franklin Taylor was disbarred and ordered by the Supreme Court to pay restitution prior to any reinstatement. The Supreme Court previously temporarily suspended Mr. Taylor's law license on June 29, 2012 and summarily suspended Mr. Taylor on October 26, 2012 based upon Mr. Taylor's plea of guilty to felony theft.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed Petitions for Discipline against Mr. Taylor pursuant to Rule 9, Section 8.2, of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, charging Mr. Taylor with misappropriation of client funds and foundation funds, and filing false claims with the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Mr. Taylor submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea which was approved by a Hearing Panel, the Board of Professional Responsibility and the Supreme Court. Mr. Taylor's actions violate Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (competence); 1.2 (scope of representation); 1.3 (diligence); 1.4 (communication); 1.5 (fees); 1.8 (conflict of interest); 1.12 (former judge); 1.15 (safekeeping property and funds); 8.1 (disciplinary matters); 8.2 (judicial and legal officials); and 8.4 (misconduct).

Mr. Taylor was ordered to pay the expenses and costs of the disciplinary proceedings against him, pursuant to Rule 9, Section 24.3, of the Rules of the Supreme Court and fully comply in all respects with the requirements and obligations of disbarred attorneys as set forth in Rule 9, Section 18.

Taylor 2105-1 rel.doc

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