

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CLAYTON F. MAYO, BPR #14138
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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February 25, 2015

MADISON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On February 20, 2015, Clayton F. Mayo, of Jackson, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for three (3) years. Mr. Mayo must serve one year of the sanction as an active suspension and the remaining two (2) years shall be served on probation subject to conditions that Mr. Mayo engage a practice monitor and engage the Tennessee Lawyer's Assistance Program for an evaluation. Further, Mr. Mayo was ordered to make restitution to former clients and must pay the Board's costs and expenses. The active period of suspension is retroactive to a Temporary Suspension Order entered on January 27, 2014; therefore, Mr. Mayo will be immediately eligible to petition for reinstatement so that he may begin his probationary period.

The Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee initiated formal disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Mayo based upon six (6) complaints of misconduct alleging that Mr. Mayo missed trial dates, neglected clients' matters, failed to communicate with clients and finally abandoned his practice. The clients paid Mr. Mayo a fee, and while Mr. Mayo did some initial work, he eventually stopped responding to them and failed to follow through on their legal work. Mr. Mayo entered into a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting to the misconduct.

Mr. Mayo's actions violated the Supreme Court's Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5(a), Fees; 1.16(d), Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 8.1(b), Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a) and (d), Misconduct.

Mr. Mayo must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 (2006) and 30.4 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.