



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ALEA DANIELLE ASHBY, BPR# 24069
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

August 10, 2010

NASHVILLE LAWYER DISBARRED

On August 5, 2010, Alea Danielle Ashby, of Nashville, Tennessee, was disbarred by the Tennessee Supreme Court. She was ordered to provide restitution to eight (8) clients.

On August 24, 2009, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Ms. Ashby containing three (3) complaints of disciplinary misconduct. A Supplemental Petition for Discipline containing two (2) more complaints of disciplinary misconduct was filed on November 18, 2009. A Second Supplemental Petition for Discipline containing five (5) additional complaints of misconduct was filed on January 13, 2010. Ms. Ashby did not file an answer to any of the petitions. On May 18, 2010, a hearing was held to determine the appropriate disciplinary sanction. The Hearing Panel found that Ms. Ashby accepted legal fees from clients and then failed to perform work as promised. Ms. Ashby failed to communicate properly with clients. Her failure to communicate with clients was exacerbated by her August 4, 2009 temporary suspension for failure to respond to the Board regarding complaints of disciplinary misconduct. Prior to the temporary suspension, clients were unable to find or communicate with Ms. Ashby except on a sporadic basis. However, following the temporary suspension, Ms. Ashby's lack of communication and failure to properly comply with Tenn. S. Ct. Rule 9, Section 18, resulted in an abandonment of practice and caused serious injury to her clients. Further, Ms. Ashby continued to practice law after her suspension. She misrepresented her licensure status to the Davidson County Circuit Court, opposing counsel, and clients.

Ms. Ashby's actions violate the following Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.3, Diligence; 1.4, Communication; 1.5, Fees; 3.3, Candor to the Tribunal; 3.4, Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel; 5.5, Unauthorized Practice of Law; 8.1, Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4, Misconduct.

Ms. Ashby must comply with Sections 18 and 19 of Supreme Court Rule 9 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. She must pay the Board's costs and expenses prior to reinstatement to the practice of law.

Ashby 1838-5 rel.doc

PLEASE NOTE

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