<u>**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**</u>
<u>**RE: CHRISTOPHER PAUL WESTMORELAND, BPR #024789**</u>
<u>**CONTACT: JERRY MORGAN**</u>
<u>**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**</u>
<u>**615-361-7500**</u>

October 16, 2019

<u>BEDFORD COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED</u>

On October 16, 2019, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending Christopher Paul Westmoreland from the practice of law for nine (9) months, with one (1) month active suspension and the remainder on probation, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2, and the payment to the Board for all costs in the disciplinary proceeding.

Mr. Westmoreland admitted to violating the Rules of Professional Conduct in two client matters. In the first complaint, Mr. Westmoreland represented a client injured in an accident. Mr. Westmoreland filed the complaint after the statute of limitations had expired. Defense counsel discovered the statute of limitations had passed and filed a motion to dismiss. Because Mr. Westmoreland missed the statute of limitations, the case was dismissed. In the second complaint, Mr. Westmoreland represented a client in appealing a general sessions judgment to circuit court. Mr. Westmoreland failed to appear at mediation and trial, and failed to notify his client of the date, time, and location of the trial. When neither Mr. Westmoreland nor his client appeared for trial, judgment was taken against his client.

Mr. Westmoreland has admitted that he violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1 (Competence), 1.3 (Diligence), 1.4 (Communication), 3.4(c) (Fairness to Opposing Counsel); and 8.4(a) and (d) (Misconduct).

Mr. Westmoreland must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

Westmoreland 2942-4 rel.doc