



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220  
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027  
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500  
(800) 486-5714  
FAX: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: EARL FRANK JOHNSON, BPR #019811**  
**CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 8, 2019

**SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

Effective February 8, 2019, the Tennessee Supreme Court suspended Earl Frank Johnson from the practice of law for six (6) months and required that he submit to an evaluation by the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program and follow any recommendations. Mr. Johnson must pay the Board of Professional Responsibility's costs and expenses and court costs within ninety (90) days.

On March 26, 2018, a Petition for Discipline was filed against the Mr. Johnson including one complaint of misconduct alleging Mr. Johnson appeared in General Sessions Court on behalf of a client when his law license had been administratively suspended since August 2012. Mr. Johnson entered a conditional guilty plea admitting to the misconduct.

Mr. Johnson's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law; multijurisdictional practice of law), 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters), and 8.4 (a) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Johnson must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys, and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.