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of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ROBERT D. BENSON, BPR #000097
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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June 5, 2003

FORMER BRENTWOOD LAWYER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

On June 3, 2003, the Supreme Court of Tennessee issued an order summarily and temporarily suspending Robert D. Benson's license to practice law, upon finding that Mr. Benson presents a substantial threat of irreparable harm to the public. Disciplinary Counsel filed petitions with the Supreme Court alleging that Mr. Benson had misappropriated client funds and abandoned his practice.

The June 3, 2003 order precludes Mr. Benson from accepting any new cases effective June 3, 2003. Mr. Benson must cease representing existing clients effective July 2, 2003. After July 2, 2003, Mr. Benson shall not use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant, or law clerk nor maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

The order requires Mr. Benson to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's order suspending his law license. Section 18 of Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Mr. Benson to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

This suspension remains in effect until dissolution or modification by the Supreme Court. Mr. Benson may for good cause request dissolution or modification of the suspension by petition to the Supreme Court.

SG:mw

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