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of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: GEORGE H. THOMPSON III, BPR NO. 3024
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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October 15, 2003

NASHVILLE LAWYER PLACED ON PROBATION

George H. Thompson III, a Nashville attorney, has been publicly disciplined by Order of the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered on October 9, 2003. The disciplinary action was entered based upon a conditional guilty plea by Thompson. The plea was recommended by the hearing panel for the case and approved by the Board of Professional Responsibility and the Supreme Court.

The order imposes a one (1) year suspension on Thompson but the suspension will be held in abeyance during a five (5) year probation period. Successful completion of the probation term and conditions will abate the suspension.

During the probation period Thompson is required to make timely monthly payments on a judgment obtained by two clients damaged by the neglect of their legal matters. The clients lost a valuable right of action because of Thompson's failure to refile in time.

The conditional guilty plea admitted that Thompson had neglected and failed to prepare two legal matters. The plea also provided that if Thompson pays the clients' judgments in full within the probation period the probation will cease and the one year suspension will be abated.

In mitigation, Thompson's actions were not intentional and he disclosed his mistake to the clients when it was discovered. The disciplinary rules are mandatory for all attorneys. They state a minimum level of conduct and any violation reflects negatively on the bar.

CAH:mw

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