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of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
IN RE: WARNER HODGES, III, BPR #004780
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October 5, 2004

MEMPHIS ATTORNEY SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE OF LAW

Warner Hodges, III, a Memphis attorney, has been temporarily suspended from the practice of law in this State by Order of the Supreme Court entered October 1, 2004. The Court suspended Hodges based upon a petition filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility alleging that respondent posed a substantial threat of irreparable harm to the public in that Hodges was in non-compliance with his contract with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program, and further that he was discharged from the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program's Monitoring and Advocacy Program for non-compliance.

The Board of Professional Responsibility had previously issued a public censure to Hodges with the condition that "any reported incidents of non-compliance constitutes immediate grounds for summary suspension."

This suspension was issued pursuant to Section 4.3 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. Hodges is precluded from accepting any new clients after October 1, 2004, and is also precluded from representing present clients after October 31, 2004. After October 31, 2004, Hodges shall furthermore not use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant or law clerk, nor maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Hodges to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's order suspending him. Section 18 also requires Hodges to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

This suspension shall remain in effect until it is dissolved or amended by order of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.

LLC:mw

