BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MARK A. SARIPKIN, BPR # 06499
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October 9, 2001

MEMPHIS ATTORNEY REINSTATED

Mark A. Saripkin, a Memphis attorney, was reinstated to the practice of law on October 2, 2001 by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Saripkin's law license had been immediately suspended for a total of 27 months under two Supreme Court Orders filed on February 5, 1999 and June 12, 2000, respectively, due to his convictions of serious crimes in Federal Court.

Saripkin's February, 1999 suspension, was due to his January 28, 1999 federal conviction of obstruction of justice. It was lifted by the Supreme Court on February 1, 2000, after the U.S District Court reversed his conviction on January, 2000. However, the Tennessee Supreme Court again suspended Saripkin's license on June 12, 2000, due to his May 23,2000 guilty plea to a one count federal information of making a false statement to an FBI agent.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition to Determine Final Discipline in the matter a Hearing Panel on August 31, 2001. The panel ruled that Saripkin's final discipline should be a suspension from the practice of law for an eleven months and twenty-nine day period retroactive to his February 5, 1999 and June 12, 2000 immediate suspensions, and for an indefinite period until he demonstrated compliance with all conditions of his federal conviction. The panel found that Saripkin was in compliance with all conditions of his federal conviction and recommended that the Supreme Court reinstate him to the practice of law. The Board and the Supreme Court both found that fully complied with this period of suspension.

The Board and the Supreme Court also gave Saripkin credit for several mitigating factors; his remorse, a full and free disclosure of all pertinent matters to the Board, a good faith effort to rectify the consequences of his misconduct, and favorable character evidence regarding his reputation for truthfulness and credibility in the legal community according to the U.S. District Court. Saripkin was ordered to pay the Board's costs as a condition of his reinstatement.

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