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of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
IN RE: SCOTT ERIC CRAWFORD, BPR #17056
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

March 23, 2004

MEMPHIS LAWYER SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE OF LAW

Scott Eric Crawford, a Memphis attorney, has been temporarily suspended from the practice of law in this state by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court filed on March 19, 2004. The Court found, based upon a petition filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility, that Crawford's continued practice of law posed a risk of irreparable harm to the public.

The petition was authorized by the chairman of the Board of Professional Responsibility and was supported by the affidavit of an FBI Special Agent, by Crawford's own statement given to officers of the Memphis Police Department, and of the DEA upon his arrest on Federal criminal charges, and by the March 5, 2004 Amended Order on detention hearing setting conditions of release filed by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee which prohibits Crawford from practicing law while the criminal charges are still pending against him in U.S. District Court. Crawford agreed to the imposition of an immediate temporary suspension order until the conclusion of the prosecution against him in U.S. District Court.

This suspension was issued pursuant to Section 4.3 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, and as agreed to by Crawford before the U.S. District Court. Crawford is precluded from practicing law in any form effective March 19, 2004, and is entitled to petition the Tennessee Supreme Court for dissolution or modification of this suspension order only upon his acquittal of the federal charges or upon their dismissal by the U.S. District Court.

Crawford 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 Crawford to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel; all opposing counsel and opposing parties without counsel of the Supreme Court's order suspending him. Section 18 also requires Crawford 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.

JJ:mw