



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: MICHAEL A. BELZ, BPR #17251
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February 25, 2002

MEMPHIS LAWYER SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE OF LAW

Michael A. Belz, a Memphis attorney, has been temporarily suspended from the practice of law in this state by Order of the Supreme Court entered on February 20, 2002. The Court suspended Belz based upon a petition filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility alleging that he failed to respond to Disciplinary Counsel or to the Board concerning a complaint of misconduct.

This suspension was issued pursuant to Section 4.3 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. This rule provides that Belz shall be precluded from accepting any new clients from the date of the issuance of the order and that he shall be precluded from representing existing clients thirty days after its issuance. Thirty days after the issuance of this order Belz is precluded from representing any clients.

After March 22, 2002, Belz 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 Belz 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 Belz 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