



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, BPR #20439
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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July 25, 2017

MADISON COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 25, 2017, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending Stephen Christopher Brooks from the practice of law for a period of five (5) years, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 12.2. Mr. Brooks must pay the costs incurred in the disciplinary proceeding to the Board of Professional Responsibility.

On September 29, 2015, a Petition for Discipline was filed against Mr. Brooks based upon Mr. Brooks' guilty plea to violations of TCA §39-17-418, Simple Possession, Schedule II, Cocaine and violation of TCA §39-17-425, Possession of Paraphernalia, in the Circuit Court for Madison County, Tennessee. The Petition for Discipline included one (1) complaint alleging commission of a criminal act, conduct involving dishonesty, conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice, failure to comply with a final court order and violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

A hearing was conducted before a Hearing Panel on May 18, 2016, and the Hearing Panel recommended that Mr. Brooks be suspended for three (3) years, with six (6) months served as an active suspension and the remainder on probation subject to compliance with a Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement, and with the conditions of probation imposed by the criminal court. Thereafter, Mr. Brooks violated his probation and failed to comply with his Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Monitoring Agreement. Another Hearing was conducted before the Hearing Panel on March 17, 2017. After a full evidentiary hearing, the Hearing Panel recommended that Mr. Brooks be suspended from the practice of law for five (5) years.

Mr. Brooks' ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 8.4 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (g), Misconduct.

Mr. Brooks must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.