



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FAX: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org
Website: www.tbpr.org

RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, BPR #20439
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

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.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

07/25/2017

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, BPR #20439

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Madison County)

No. M2017-01491-SC-BAR-BP

BOPR No. 2015-2494-7-AJ

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Stephen Christopher Brooks on September 29, 2015; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Brooks on January 15, 2016; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on January 21, 2016; upon consideration and approval by the Board on February 1, 2016; upon rejection of the Conditional Guilty Plea by this Court on February 12, 2016; upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Hearing Panel entered on June 3, 2016; upon service of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on Mr. Brooks by the Executive Secretary of the Board on June 3, 2016; upon Order Assessing Costs entered August 5, 2016; upon service of the Order Assessing Costs on Mr. Brooks by the Executive Secretary of the Board on August 5, 2016; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 9, 2016; upon remand to the Hearing Panel; upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Hearing Panel entered on May 4, 2017; upon service of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on Mr. Brooks by the Executive Secretary of the Board on May 4, 2017; upon Order Assessing Costs entered May 17, 2017; upon service of the Order Assessing Costs on Mr. Brooks by the Executive Secretary of the Board on May 17, 2017; upon consideration and approval by the Board on June 9, 2017; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order as the Court's Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2, Stephen Christopher Brooks is suspended from the practice of law for five (5) years.

(2) Mr. Brooks shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28, and Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Brooks must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective immediately.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Brooks shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,888.53 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(6) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM