



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: THOMAS MARTIN BROWDER, BPR #11424
CONTACT: WILLIAM W. HUNT, III, DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
(615) 361-7500, EXT. 218

August 15, 2006

LAW LICENSE OF KINGSPORT LAWYER SUSPENDED

On August 4, 2006, the Supreme Court of Tennessee issued an Order of Enforcement relative to Thomas Martin Browder, who practices law in Kingsport, Tennessee. The Supreme Court ordered that Mr. Browder's law license be suspended for 11 months and 29 days. The Supreme Court suspended all but 30 days of this law license suspension subject to Mr. Browder fulfilling certain probationary requirements. (Mr. Browder ceased practicing law in May 2006 and the Court stated that this May cessation of practice fulfills the requirement that Mr. Browder not practice for at least 30 days.) The Court's probationary requirement obligates Mr. Browder to consult with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program and to comply with the program's requirements for a period of two years. If he fails to comply with the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program requirements, Mr. Browder will be compelled to serve the entire 11 months suspension. At this time, absent any further orders from the Court, Mr. Browder can continue to practice law.

While employed in another law firm, Mr. Browder obtained a settlement in a worker's compensation case for \$2,695.52 near the time he left the firm. A portion of the settlement was needed to reimburse expenses advanced by the firm. Mr. Browder was tardy in determining the exact amount of expenses.

In six more matters, Mr. Browder neglected the cases, failed to return phone calls, failed to make appointments, failed to give clients their files, and otherwise failed to diligently pursue his clients' cases.

This order was issued as a result of a conditional guilty plea entered into by Mr. Browder, as provided in Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Disciplinary Counsel's office concurred in Mr. Browder's plea.

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