



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
of the
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: STEPHEN M. BROWN, #9749
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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July 19, 2006

MEMPHIS ATTORNEY SUSPENDED

On July 18, 2006, the Tennessee Supreme Court entered an Order suspending the law license of Stephen M. Brown, for a forty-five day period. Pursuant to Section 18.5 of Supreme Court Rule 9, the suspension will become effective ten days after the date of this order. The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Brown in August of 2005, and in March 2006, Brown tendered and the Board approved his conditional guilty plea to the petition in exchange for the forty-five day suspension.

Brown's suspension arose out of his prior representation of a masonry subcontractor involved with construction at the Fed Ex Forum between 2003 and 2004. In attempting to settle his client's dispute with the lead contractor, Brown admitted that he used means which had no substantial purpose other than to embarrass or burden other lawyers and parties, and that he had directly communicated on behalf of his client with a represented party (members of the New Memphis Arena Public Building Authority) without obtaining the consent of that party's lawyer.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Brown 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 from the practice. Section 18 also requires Brown to deliver to clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

The Court further ordered that Brown pay the costs of the disciplinary proceedings. Brown may resume the practice of law without the need for a reinstatement proceeding upon expiration of the forty-five day period of suspension.

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