



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: ROBERT THOMAS CARTER, JR., BPR# 013185**  
**CONTACT: SANDY GARRETT**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 23, 2011

**TULLAHOMA ATTORNEY REMAINS SUSPENDED**

On February 17, 2011, the Tennessee Supreme Court entered an Order suspending Robert Thomas Carter, Jr., based upon Mr. Carter's guilty plea in *State of Tennessee v. Carter* for felony theft of property, \$10,000 - \$60,000. The Supreme Court previously temporarily suspended Mr. Carter on July 21, 2010, for Mr. Carter's failure to substantially comply with his Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement. The entry of this Order does not affect the continuation of the Supreme Court's July 21, 2010 Order.

The Supreme Court ordered the Board of Professional Responsibility to institute a formal proceeding to determine the extent of final discipline to be imposed as a result of Mr. Carter's conviction. Mr. Carter was ordered to fully comply with the provisions of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18, concerning suspended attorneys.

This suspension shall remain in effect until it is dissolved or amended by order of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.

Carter 2011-4 rel.doc.

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

2011 FEB 17 PM 3:51

ROBERT THOMAS CARTER, Jr., BPR#013185

APPELLATE COURT CLERK  
NASHVILLE

An Attorney Licensed in Tennessee  
(Coffee County)

NO. M 2011-00346-SC-BPO-BP  
BOPR DOCKET NO. 2011-2011-4-SG(14)

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

This matter is before the Court pursuant to Section 14 of Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, upon a certificate filed by Disciplinary Counsel for the Board of Professional Responsibility consisting of a certified copy of the Judgment in a criminal case, *State of Tennessee v. Robert Thomas Carter, Jr.*, (attached as Exhibit A) filed in the Criminal Court of Coffee County, Tennessee on January 28, 2011, demonstrating that Robert Thomas Carter, Jr., a Tennessee attorney, has pled guilty to a serious crime, felony theft of property - \$10,000 - \$60,000. Mr. Carter has filed an objection to the entry of this Order, on the grounds that, because his plea of guilty has been entered pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-35-313, he has not yet been convicted of any crime.

After consideration of the entire record before the Court, it is therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** by the Court that:

1. Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 14.1 requires immediate suspension of an attorney who has entered a plea of guilty to a "serious crime", whether or not the trial court has found the attorney guilty. Under Section 14.2 the term "serious crime" includes all felonies. Therefore, Mr. Carter's actions meet the definitions found in Section 14 and require immediate suspension;
2. Robert Thomas Carter, Jr., is suspended from the practice of law on this date pending further orders of this Court, pursuant to Section 14 of Rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee;
3. This matter shall be referred to the Board of Professional Responsibility for the institution of a formal proceeding in which the sole issue to be determined shall be the extent of the final discipline to be imposed as a result of the conviction by the Guilty Plea and the timing of imposition of that discipline;

4. By Order entered July 21, 2010, Robert Thomas Carter, Jr., was temporarily suspended for his failure to substantially comply with his Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) Monitoring Agreement. The entry of this Order does not affect the continuing violation of the prior disciplinary Order.

5. Robert Thomas Carter, Jr. shall fully comply with the provisions of Section 18 of Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court, concerning disbarred or suspended attorneys; and

6. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this suspension to be published as required by Supreme Court Rule 9.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark

CORNELIA A. CLARK  
CHIEF JUSTICE

I, Michael W. Catapano, Clerk, hereby certify that  
this is a true and exact copy of the original

filed in the office.

This 7th day of Feb., 20 11  
CLERK OF COURT

By: [Signature] S.C.