



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: DON W. COOPER, BPR #1286
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

December 8, 2015

SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

On December 4, 2015, the Supreme Court of Tennessee temporarily suspended Don W. Cooper from the practice of law upon finding Mr. Cooper has misappropriated funds and poses a risk of substantial harm to the public. Section 12.3 of Supreme Court Rule 9 provides for the immediate summary suspension of an attorney's license to practice law in cases wherein an attorney has misappropriated funds to the attorney's own use.

Mr. Cooper is immediately precluded from accepting new cases and must cease representing existing clients by January 3, 2016. After January 3, 2016, Mr. Cooper shall not use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant or law clerk or maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

Mr. Cooper must notify all clients he represents in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel, of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his law license. Mr. Cooper is required to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

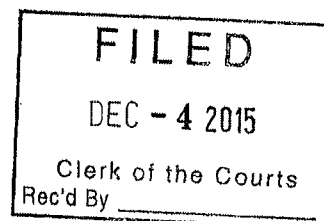
This suspension remains in effect until dissolution or modification by the Supreme Court. Mr. Cooper may for good cause request dissolution or modification of the suspension by petition to the Supreme Court.

Cooper 2520-1 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: DON W. COOPER, BPR #1286
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Sullivan County)

No. M2015-02305-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2015-2520-1-AW(12.3)



ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

This matter is before the Court on a Petition of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, by and through Disciplinary Counsel, for the temporary suspension of Don W. Cooper from the practice of law, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3. The Petition has been authorized by the Chair of the Board of Professional Responsibility and is supported by the Affidavit of Kevin Balkwill, Disciplinary Counsel.

Based upon the Petition and the supporting Affidavit, the Court finds Don W. Cooper, Respondent, has misappropriated funds and poses a threat of substantial harm to the public as detailed by the Affidavit of Disciplinary Counsel.

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

1. Don W. Cooper is hereby temporarily suspended from the practice of law as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3.
2. Don W. Cooper shall comply with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9 in all respects and particularly as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28, regarding the responsibilities of suspended attorneys.
3. Don W. Cooper may make application for dissolution or modification of this Order as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3.
4. The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this suspension of Don W. Cooper to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM