



**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**

February 23, 2017

**SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED**

Effective February 23, 2017, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Don W. Cooper from the practice of law for misappropriating funds while serving as co-executor, administrator and/or trustee in three (3) separate estates and trusts. Mr. Cooper is required to pay restitution to the estates totaling \$952,759.37.

Mr. Cooper's conduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15(a) and (d) (Safekeeping Property and Funds); 8.1(b) (Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters); and 8.4(a), (b), (c) and (d) (Misconduct).

Mr. Cooper must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and may not return to the active practice of law until an order of reinstatement has been entered by the Supreme Court.

Cooper 2584-1 rel.doc