



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: DON W. COOPER, BPR #1286**  
**CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 23, 2018

**SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED**

Effective February 23, 2018, the Supreme Court of Tennessee disbarred Don W. Cooper from the practice of law, retroactive to August 18, 2017, for misappropriating funds while serving as personal representative of an estate. Mr. Cooper is required to pay restitution to the estate in the amount of \$57,000.00. The Tennessee Supreme Court suspended Mr. Cooper on August 18, 2017, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 22.3, based upon his entry of Alford/Best Interest pleas to ten counts of theft. The Board of Professional Responsibility instituted a formal proceeding to determine the extent of final discipline to be imposed.

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

Mr. Cooper was previously disbarred by the Supreme Court of Tennessee on February 23, 2017. That disbarment remains in effect.

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 2742-1; 2757-1 rel.doc