



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
of the  
**SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: RICHARD ALAN COUNTS, #14027**  
**CONTACT: DR. WILLIAM W. HUNT III**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

April 10, 2008

**FORMER KINGSPORT ATTORNEY DISCIPLINED**

On April 7, 2008, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order relative to former Kingsport attorney, Richard Alan Counts, suspending his law license for 30 days. Mr. Counts now resides in Florida.

On March 5, 1993, Mr. Counts transferred his law license to Disability Inactive Status. This transfer halted any disciplinary proceeding as to Mr. Counts. In 2004, Mr. Counts' law license was returned to active status. As a result, disciplinary complaints pending prior to March 5, 1993 were reactivated. Mr. Counts subsequently filed a Conditional Guilty Plea to having charged an excessive fee prior to 1993. The plea provided that Mr. Counts receive a thirty (30) day suspension, said suspension to be retroactive to the date on which his law license was transferred to Disability Inactive Status (March 5, 1993). The Supreme Court's April 7, 2008 order approved said plea.

Since the suspension was retroactive to March 5, 1993, Mr. Counts has therefore completed his suspension. Supreme Court Rule 9 provides that reinstatement of a law license at the end of the term of suspension is automatic when the suspension is for a period less than one year. Therefore, Mr. Counts is now able to continue to practice law.

Counts 599-1 rel.doc

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