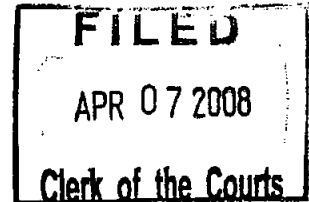


IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE



IN RE: RICHARD ALAN COUNTS, BPR #14027
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Naples, Florida)

BPR Docket No. 91-599-1-TH
No. M2003-00369-SC-BPR-BP

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon the filing of a Petition for Discipline by the Board of Professional Responsibility ("Board") against Respondent, Richard Alan Counts, on November 25, 1991; upon the filing of a response to the Petition for Discipline by Respondent on March 25, 1997; upon the transfer of Respondent to disability inactive status on March 15, 1993; upon the reinstatement of Respondent to active status on May 12, 2004; upon the reactivation of the Petition for Discipline; and upon the filing of a Conditional Guilty Plea by Respondent on September 21, 2007, which has been approved by a hearing panel and by the Board.

From all of which the Court approves the terms of the Conditional Guilty Plea and adopts the terms as the Court's order.

It is, therefore, **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED** by the Court that:

1. Respondent is hereby suspended from the practice of law for thirty (30) days retroactive to March 15, 1993, the date Respondent was transferred to disability inactive status;
2. Pursuant to Rule 9, Section 24.3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Respondent shall pay to the Board the expenses and the costs of this matter in a sum of \$431.00, plus any additional costs assessed by the Clerk of the Court, for all of which execution may issue, if necessary; and
3. The Board shall cause notice of this suspension to be published as required by Rule 9, Section 18.10 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

FOR THE COURT:

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

filed in the cause.

This 7 day of April, 2008

CLERK OF COURT

By: [Signature]

[Signature]
JANICE M. HOLDER, JUSTICE



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 KINGSFORT 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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