

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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: ELIZABETH CATHERINE COX, BPR #28884
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

February 4, 2015

## SEVIER COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED AND PLACED ON PROBATION

On January 30, 2015, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an order suspending Elizabeth Catherine Cox of Sevierville, Tennessee for three (3) years, with one (1) year served as an active suspension, retroactive to February 3, 2014, and the remaining two (2) years served on probation. Ms. Cox must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs. Pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18.5, the effective date of the order of suspension is February 9, 2015. Ms. Cox's probationary period will begin upon her reinstatement to the practice of law pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. Section 30.4(c). During her probation, Ms. Cox must engage the services of a practice monitor, avoid new complaints of misconduct, enter into any monitoring agreement recommended by TLAP and pay restitution to her clients.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Ms. Cox based upon six (6) complaints of misconduct. Ms. Cox revealed damaging client information to the court in her request to withdraw, failed to communicate with her client and missed a scheduled court appearance, stopped communicating with her clients, provided legal advice to a client while suspended from the practice of law and failed to advise clients of her temporary suspension entered February 3, 2014. In mitigation of the above misconduct, Ms. Cox experienced serious personal and family issues.

Ms. Cox admitted violating Tennessee Supreme Court Rules of Professional Conduct, 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.6 (confidentiality), 1.16 (terminating representation), 3.2 (expediting litigation), 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law), 8.1 (disciplinary matters) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Ms. Cox must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 18 (2006) and Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 30.4(c) (2014) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

Cox 2365-1 rel.doc