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SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
IN RE: SCOTT ERIC CRAWFORD, BPR #17056
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October 28, 2004

MEMPHIS LAWYER SUSPENDED

Scott Eric Crawford, a Memphis lawyer, has been suspended from the practice of law by Tennessee Supreme Court Order filed on October 26, 2004. Crawford was suspended for a period of nine (9) months retroactive to March 19, 2004, the date of his temporary suspension imposed in an unrelated matter. Crawford will not be reinstated to the practice of law upon the expiration of nine (9) months after March 19, 2004 unless he has first obtained an Order from the Tennessee Supreme Court dissolving or modifying the Court's March 19, 2004 temporary suspension Order imposed in the unrelated matter.

Between 2001 and 2002, Crawford engaged in a pattern of deceptive conduct as to two legal matters he handled for clients. In the first matter, Crawford improperly instructed his secretary to sign the opposing party's name to a Final Decree of Divorce without the opposing party's consent and in a fashion inconsistent with the provisions of the filed Marital Dissolution Agreement, which resulted in the wrongful assessment of court costs against this pro se opposing party. In the second matter, Crawford improperly assisted an attorney unlicensed in Tennessee to engage in the unauthorized practice of law in Shelby County General Sessions Court without complying with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 19.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline in November, 2002 against Crawford pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, and Crawford promptly filed an Answer. A Hearing Panel from Disciplinary District IX was appointed to decide this matter in January, 2003, and extensive discovery was conducted and several pre-hearing matters were considered by the Panel during 2003 and early 2004. At the final hearing set in this matter before the Panel on August 18, 2004, Crawford tendered a plea to the Petition whereby he agreed to be suspended from the practice of law for nine (9) months retroactive to March 19, 2004 as set forth above.

Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Crawford to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters; all co-counsel and opposing

counsel of the Supreme Court's Order suspending him. Section 18 also requires Crawford to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

Crawford may be reinstated from this suspension on December 19, 2004 without initiating a reinstatement proceeding pursuant to Section 19 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, only if he has first obtained an Order from the Tennessee Supreme Court dissolving or modifying the Court's March 19, 2004 Order temporarily suspending his law license.

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