IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

FILED

MAY 2 0 2008

Clerk of the Courts

IN RE: CHRISTOPHER F. DONOVAN, BPR NO. 22765

An Attorney Licensed To Practice Law in Tennessee (Dyer County)

BOPR No. 2006-1627-8-CH

No. M2006-00126-5C-BPR-BP

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility ("the Board") against Respondent, Christopher F. Donovan, on September 6, 2006; upon a Conditional Guilty Plea submitted by Respondent on September 11, 2006 pursuant to Rule 9, § 16.1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, which plea has been approved by Disciplinary Counsel and by the Board; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the terms of the Conditional Guilty Plea and adopts and incorporates the terms contained therein as the Court's Order.

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

- 1. Respondent shall be suspended from the practice of law for a period of 11 months and 29 days retroactive to January 31, 2006, the date of Respondent's temporary suspension.
- 2. Respondent shall thereafter be indefinitely suspended until he makes restitution in the sum of \$250.00 to the Complainant in File No. 28420-8-CH, and restitution in the sum of \$1,000.00 to the Complainant in File No. 28544-7-CH.
- 3. Respondent shall be on probation for three years from the date of his reinstatement during which time Respondent shall remain in compliance with a Tennessee Lawyer Assistance Program ("TLAP") monitoring agreement as is more particularly set forth in paragraph 4 below.
- 4. Prior to reinstatement, Respondent shall enter into a TLAP monitoring agreement for a period of four years. If Respondent fails to comply with the terms of his monitoring agreement, he will be subject to immediate suspension and to the revocation of his probation. If it is determined by a Hearing Panel of the Board that Respondent has failed to comply with the terms of his monitoring agreement, Respondent's probation shall be revoked and Respondent shall be suspended for one additional year.

- 5. Pursuant to Rule 9, § 24.3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, Respondent shall pay to the Board the expenses and costs of this matter in the sum of \$503.25, and in addition shall pay any costs assessed by the Clerk of this Court in this cause, for all of which execution shall issue if necessary.
- 6. The Board shall cause notice of this suspension to be published as required by Rule 9, § 18.10 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

FOR THE COURT:

NICE M. HOLDER, JUSTICE

I, Michael W. Gatalano, Clerk, hereby certify that

filed in the cause.

CLERK OF

D.C.



BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY of the SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
CHRISTOPHER F. DONOVAN, # 22765
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

May 21, 2008

DYER COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On May 20, 2008, the Supreme Court of Tennessee retroactively suspended Christopher F. Donovan, of Dyersburg, Tennessee, from the practice of law for eleven (11) months and twenty-nine (29) days. The suspension was retroactive to January 31, 2006 and subject to certain conditions. Mr. Donovan was required to make restitution to two clients. Further, he must remain on probation for three (3) years during which time he must remain compliant with all conditions of probation. Mr. Donovan is required to pay the costs of the disciplinary proceedings.

Christopher Donovan violated the Rules of Professional Conduct by accepting fees from clients and then failed to perform any legal work on their cases. Further, Mr. Donovan abandoned his law practice without properly notifying clients. His actions violate the following Rules of Professional Conduct: 1.1 (Competence); 1.3 (Diligence); 1.4 (Communication); 1.5(a) (Fees); 1.15 (a) and (b) (Safekeeping of Property); 1.16 (a) and (d) (Declining and Terminating Representation); 8.4 (a) and (d) (Misconduct).

Donovan 1627-8 rel.doc

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