



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: WILLIAM LEON HENDRICKS, JR., BPR #11527
CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

September 21, 2015

SHELBY COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On September 17, 2015, William Leon Hendricks, of Memphis, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for four (4) years, retroactive to April 30, 2013, with two (2) years active suspension and two (2) years of probation. The order is effective September 27, 2015. Mr. Hendricks must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

Mr. Hendricks represented the owners of companies against whom the Department of Commerce and Insurance filed suit to seize and liquidate the companies because they were providing nonexistent insurance and were unlawfully engaging in the business of insurance without licensure. Despite an injunction against transferring the assets of the business, Mr. Hendricks participated in transferring some of the companies' assets and continuing to transact the business of the companies under new names. He was charged with contempt for violating the injunction. He was indicted and received pretrial diversion for facilitation to commit a Class B felony. In mitigation, he claims he was duped by his clients who are under federal indictment for their roles in the scheme. Mr. Hendricks has fully cooperated with law enforcement and has not challenged his temporary suspension pending resolution of the criminal matter and the Petition for Discipline.

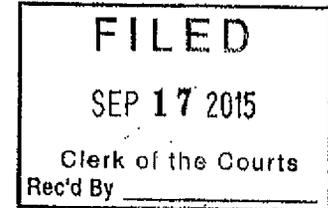
Mr. Hendricks' actions violated RPC 1.16(b) (declining and terminating representation), 3.4(c) (fairness to opposing party and counsel) and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Hendricks must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 (2006) and 30 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: WILLIAM LEON HENDRICKS, JR., BPR #11527
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Shelby County)

No. M2015-01800-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2013-2250-9-KH



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against William Leon Hendricks, Jr., on September 4, 2013; upon an Answer filed by Mr. Hendricks on September 25, 2013; upon entry of a Conditional Guilty Plea filed by Mr. Hendricks on July 16, 2015; upon an Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea entered on July 29, 2015; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 11, 2015; and upon the entire record in this cause.¹

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Order Recommending Approval of Conditional Guilty Plea as the Court's Order.

On April 30, 2013, Mr. Hendricks was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.3 (Case No. M2013-00974-SC-BPR-BP). To date, Mr. Hendricks has not been reinstated from this suspension.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

(1) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 4.2, William Leon Hendricks, Jr., is suspended for four (4) years retroactive to April 30, 2013. However, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 8.5, two (2) years shall be served as an active suspension and the remaining two (2) years shall be served on probation subject to the following conditions:

¹Because this matter was initiated prior to January 1, 2014, it is governed by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9 (2006) except as otherwise noted.

- (a) Mr. Hendricks shall engage a practice monitor for the entire period of probation. Mr. Hendricks shall provide a list of three (3) proposed practice monitors for selection by the Board within fifteen (15) days of reinstatement to the active practice of law.
- (b) The practice monitor shall submit monthly reports to the Board regarding Mr. Hendricks' office management procedures, an assessment of Mr. Hendricks' client intake procedures for new clients, an assessment of potential conflicts of interest with existing clients, and an assessment of trust account compliance.
- (c) During the period of suspension and probation, Mr. Hendricks shall incur no new complaints of misconduct that relate to conduct occurring during the period of suspension and probation and which result in the recommendation by the Board that discipline be imposed.

(2) In the event Mr. Hendricks fails to meet any condition of probation, the probation may be revoked pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 8.5.

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Hendricks must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(4) Additionally, Mr. Hendricks shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18 (2006) and 30.4 (2014) regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(5) Further, the Order of Temporary Suspension entered on April 30, 2013, in Case No. M2013-00974-SC-BPR-BP is hereby dissolved.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.5, this Order shall be effective ten (10) days after the date of entry.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Mr. Hendricks shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,133.13 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(8) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 18.10.

PER CURIAM