



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: WILLIAM DOUGLAS HOOPER, BPR #29825
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

December 10, 2015

SUMNER COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On December 9, 2015, William Douglas Hooper of Sumner County, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for one (1) year retroactive to entry of the order of temporary suspension on July 3, 2014. Pursuant to the Order of Enforcement, Mr. Hooper shall pay restitution to his former client and the cost and expense of the disciplinary proceedings. Payment of restitution is a condition precedent to Mr. Hooper's reinstatement to the practice of law.

A Petition for Discipline containing one (1) complaint of misconduct was filed by the Board of Professional Responsibility on March 26, 2015. The Petition alleged that Mr. Hooper ceased communicating with his client, did not inform his client of motions and pleadings filed against him, and failed to appear in court on behalf of his client. In addition, Mr. Hooper did not respond to Disciplinary Counsel investigating this case.

The Hearing Panel found that Mr. Hooper violated Tennessee Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.15 (safekeeping property), 1.16 (declining or terminating representation), 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters) and 8.4(a) and (d) (misconduct).

Mr. Hooper must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

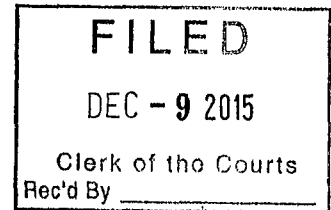
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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: WILLIAM DOUGLAS HOOPER, BPR #29825

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Sumner County)

No. M2015-02354-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2015-2435-6-AJ



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against William Douglas Hooper on March 26, 2015; upon Motion for Default Judgment and that the Allegations Contained in Petition for Discipline be Deemed Admitted filed on May 6, 2015; upon Order for Default entered on July 17, 2015; upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Hearing Panel entered on August 24, 2015; upon service of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on Mr. Hooper by the Executive Secretary of the Board on August 25, 2015; upon the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered September 8, 2015; upon service of the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs on Mr. Hooper by the Executive Secretary of the Board on September 8, 2015; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 18, 2015; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Order of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Judgment as the Court's Order.

On December 17, 2014, Mr. Hooper was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3 (M2014-02399-SC-BAR-BP). Further, on August 25, 2014, Mr. Hooper was suspended for failing to comply with continuing legal education requirements. To date, Mr. Hooper has not requested, nor been granted reinstatement.

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

- (1) William Douglas Hooper is suspended from the practice of law for one (1)

year, retroactive to the date of his temporary suspension, December 17, 2014, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2.

(2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any reinstatement, Mr. Hooper shall make restitution to Clay King in the amount of \$1,200.00, and shall furnish to the Board of Professional Responsibility proof of restitution. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Hooper shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount.

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Hooper 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. Hooper shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(5) Further, the Order of Temporary Suspension entered on December 17, 2014 in M2014-02399-SC-BAR-BP is hereby dissolved.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Hooper shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$438.94 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, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM