



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: JOHN THOMAS JONES, BPR #9510
CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

August 12, 2015

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER PLACED ON DISABILITY INACTIVE STATUS

By Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court entered August 11, 2015, the law license of John Thomas Jones was transferred to disability inactive status pursuant to Section 27.3 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9. Prior to being placed on disability inactive status, Mr. Jones' license to practice law had been temporarily suspended by the Supreme Court on July 24, 2015, after the Court determined that Mr. Jones had misappropriated funds and posed a threat of substantial harm to the public. The Court's August 11, 2015 Order did not remove the temporary suspension.

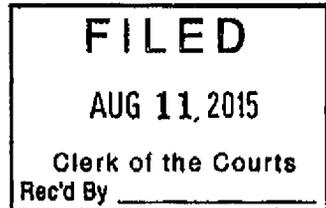
Mr. Jones cannot practice law while on disability inactive status. He may return to the practice of law after reinstatement by the Tennessee Supreme Court upon showing of clear and convincing evidence that the disability has been removed and he is fit to resume the practice of law.

Jones 2470-2 rel2.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: JOHN THOMAS JONES, BPR #9510
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Knox County)

No. M2015-01370-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2015-2470-2-KH(12.3)



ORDER

John Thomas Jones filed a "Notice Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 27.4(a) and Response to Petition for Temporary Suspension" as well as a "Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal and Motion for a Protective Order." Mr. Jones requests that this Court terminate his temporary suspension and instead place him on disability inactive status indefinitely. Mr. Jones also plans to file medical records and other supporting documentation consistent with his request to be placed on disability inactive status, all of which he requests to have placed under seal.

With respect to his first request, we hold that, pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 section 27.4(a), we shall immediately transfer Mr. Jones to disability inactive status "for an indefinite period and until further order of the Court." However, Mr. Jones' temporary suspension shall remain in place pending the determination as to Mr. Jones' incapacity.

Regarding Mr. Jones' second request – to file documents under seal – we note that Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 32.4 states, "In disability proceedings referred to in Section 27, the order transferring the respondent attorney to disability inactive status shall become a public record upon filing; however, all other documents relating to the respondent attorney's disability proceeding . . . shall not be public records and shall be kept confidential." Therefore, any documents filed pursuant to his disability proceedings will be kept confidential.

Accordingly, we grant Mr. Jones' request to be placed on disability inactive status but deny his request to terminate his temporary suspension. Mr. Jones shall have thirty (30) days from the filing of this Order to submit medical records and other supporting documentation for his disability proceedings. We also deny Mr. Jones' motion to place

all documents under seal, given that such documents related to his disability proceedings will be kept confidential.

PER CURIAM