



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: VANESSA LYNN LEMONS, BPR #23307
CONTACT: A. RUSSELL WILLIS
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

January 28, 2013

KNOX COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On January 25, 2013, Vanessa Lynn Lemons, of Knoxville, Tennessee, was suspended from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court for four (4) years and indefinitely thereafter until she provides proof of completion of conditions including restitution to former clients, evaluation by Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) and compliance with the terms and conditions of any monitoring agreement determined by TLAP to be appropriate. Finally, Ms. Lemons must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

Ms. Lemons undertook the representation of five (5) separate clients and thereafter failed to communicate with her clients, neglected their legal matters and failed to properly terminate her representation. In those cases where Ms. Lemons accepted a fee and failed to perform services, she also refused or failed to refund the retainer to her client. Finally, Ms. Lemons misrepresented to one client that she had paid the client's court costs. When confronted with these allegations, Ms. Lemons failed to respond to the disciplinary complaints or to the Board's requests for information.

Ms. Lemons' actions violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligence), 1.4 (communication), 1.5 (fees), 1.16 (declining and terminating representation), 8.1 (bar admission and disciplinary matters) and 8.4 (misconduct).

Ms. Lemons must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 18 and 19, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Lemons 2137-2 rel.doc

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