



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

10 CADILLAC DRIVE, SUITE 220
BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500
(800) 486-5714
FAX: (615) 367-2480
E-MAIL: ethics@tbpr.org
Website: www.tbpr.org

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

PLEASE NOTE

YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE INFORMATIONAL RELEASES, FORMAL ETHICS OPINIONS, NEWSLETTERS AND ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY BY SIGNING IN AT THE BOARD'S WEBSITE

www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE VANESSA LYNN LEMONS, BPR No. 023307

An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Knox County, Tennessee)

No. M2013-00264-SC-BPR-BP

BOPR Docket No. 2012-2137-2-SG

FILED

JAN 25 2013

Clerk of the Courts

ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Vanessa Lynn Lemons on July 6, 2012; upon a Motion for Default filed on August 16, 2012; upon an Order for Default Judgment entered August 27, 2012; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered October 25, 2012; upon the Board's consideration and approval of the Judgment of the Hearing Panel on December 14, 2012, and upon the entire record in this cause.

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

By Order filed June 11, 2012, this Court temporarily suspended Ms. Lemons from the practice of law in Docket No. M2012-01168-SC-BPR-BP. Ms. Lemons has neither requested nor been granted reinstatement. Upon the entry of the Order of Enforcement, the Order of June 11, 2012, is hereby dissolved.

It is, therefore, ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that:

1. The Respondent, Vanessa Lynn Lemons, is suspended from the practice of law for four (4) years and indefinitely, thereafter, until she provides proof of completion of the following conditions:

- (a) Respondent shall contact the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP) for evaluation. If TLAP determines that a monitoring agreement is appropriate, Respondent shall comply with the terms and conditions of the TLAP monitoring agreement.

(b) Pay restitution to the following clients and/or Lawyers Fund for Client Protection:

| | | |
|----|---------------|-----------|
| 1. | Danny McCoy | \$500.00 |
| 2. | Christine Foy | \$1000.00 |
| 3. | John Barber | \$500.00 |

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

3. Respondent shall comply in all respects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 18 and 19 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

4. Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 24.3, Vanessa Lynn Lemons shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,463.46 and in addition, 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.

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

6. The Order entered June 11, 2012, in Docket No. M2012-01168-SC-BPR-BP is hereby dissolved.

FOR THE COURT:

Cornelia A. Clark
CORNELIA A. CLARK, JUSTICE