



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
of the  
**SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

1101 KERMIT DRIVE, SUITE 730  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37217  
TELEPHONE: (615) 361-7500  
(800) 486-5714  
FAX: (615) 367-2480  
E-MAIL: [ethics@tbpr.org](mailto:ethics@tbpr.org)  
Website: [www.tbpr.org](http://www.tbpr.org)

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**WILLIAM NORMAN LIGON, BPR #007085**  
**CONTACT: LAURA L. CHASTAIN**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

March 6, 2007

**SUMNER COUNTY ATTORNEY SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE OF LAW**

On March 1, 2007, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an Order suspending the law license of Sumner County attorney, William Norman Ligon, for a period of one (1) year retroactive to April 20, 2006, the date upon which he was first suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court, and Ligon shall continue in compliance with the terms of his contract with Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP), and shall make restitution to Shirley Merrimon in the amount of \$750.00, all as conditions precedent to reinstatement. Disciplinary Counsel filed a Petition for Discipline pursuant to Rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Pursuant to Section 16.1 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Ligon submitted a Conditional Guilty Plea admitting he had neglected his clients' legal matters, failed to communicate with his clients, acted incompetently and charged an excessive fee.

The Tennessee Supreme Court also ordered that Ligon comply with Section 18 of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9 which requires Ligon to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters, all co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his license. Section 18 also requires Ligon to deliver to clients any papers or property to which they are entitled. This disciplinary matter was held pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 8 and 9.

In Tennessee suspended lawyers may, after the passage of their suspension, apply for reinstatement of their law licenses. However, to succeed these lawyers must carry their burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence that their reinstatement will not be detrimental to the integrity and standing of the bar or the administration of justice or subversive to the public interest.

Ligon 1614-6 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](http://www.tbpr.org/Subscriptions)**

