



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: SHANNON MICHELE LOVINS, BPR #19481**  
**CONTACT: KRISANN HODGES**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

February 25, 2015

**SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED**

On February 20, 2015, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an Order of Reciprocal Discipline suspending the law license of Shannon Michele Lovins, of Bluff City, Tennessee, for five (5) years subject to conditions imposed by the North Carolina State Bar. The suspension is retroactive to December 5, 2012.

Upon receiving notification by the Board of Professional Responsibility that Ms. Lovins was subject to attorney discipline in North Carolina, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered a notice requiring Ms. Lovins to demonstrate why reciprocal discipline should not be imposed in Tennessee. Ms. Lovins' license to practice law in North Carolina was suspended upon finding that Ms. Lovins pled guilty to several criminal offenses involving illegal drugs, disorderly conduct, and driving while under the influence of an impairing substance. Ms. Lovins also failed to conduct the requisite reconciliations of her trust account, commingled funds by leaving her attorney fees in the trust account, over-disbursed funds from the trust account to third parties, and failed to follow mandatory management and record-keeping procedures. There was no evidence that Ms. Lovins' failure to follow proper trust account management and record-keeping procedures was the result of dishonesty or for self-gain.

Ms. Lovins voluntarily stipulated to the findings of a North Carolina State Bar Hearing Panel acknowledging that she violated North Carolina General Statutes, Section 84-28(b)(2) Rules 1.15-2(a), (f), (j) and (m), 1.15-3(a), (b) and (d), 8.4(b). After considering the record of the North Carolina State Bar, the Supreme Court of Tennessee found that it was appropriate to also enter an Order of Reciprocal Discipline suspending Ms. Lovins' license to practice law in Tennessee.

Ms. Lovins must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30.4 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys. While suspended, Ms. Lovins remains obligated to fulfill all applicable CLE requirements and to pay annual registration fees. She must pay the costs and expenses of this proceeding.