

## **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
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BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
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November 6, 2006

## **CLARKSVILLE LAWYER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**

On November 2, 2006, the Supreme Court of Tennessee issued an Order summarily and temporarily suspending Van Lewis Riggins, Jr.'s license to practice law upon finding that Mr. Riggins had misappropriated funds to his own use and abandoned his practice.

The November 2, 2006 Order precludes Mr. Riggins from accepting any new cases effective November 2, 2006. Mr. Riggins must cease representing existing clients effective December 2, 2006. After December 2, 2006, Mr. Riggins shall not use any indicia of lawyer, legal assistant, or law clerk nor maintain a presence where the practice of law is conducted.

The Order requires Mr. Riggins to notify by registered or certified mail all clients being represented in pending matters, as well as co-counsel and opposing counsel of the Supreme Court's Order suspending his law license. Section 18 of Supreme Court Rule 9 requires Mr. Riggins to deliver to all clients any papers or property to which they are entitled.

This suspension remains in effect until dissolution or modification by the Supreme Court. Mr. Riggins may for good cause request dissolution or modification of the suspension by petition to the Supreme Court.

Riggins 1643-6 rel.doc

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