



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

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: THOMAS ALAN SNAPP, BPR #13962
CONTACT: ALAN D. JOHNSON
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

July 22, 2016

SULLIVAN COUNTY LAWYER SUSPENDED

On July 21, 2016, the Supreme Court of Tennessee suspended the law license of Thomas Alan Snapp of Sullivan County, Tennessee, for five (5) years and ordered Mr. Snapp to pay the Board's costs and expenses.

The Board of Professional Responsibility filed a Petition for Discipline against Thomas Alan Snapp on April 7, 2015, based upon two (2) complaints of misconduct alleging misappropriation, unauthorized practice of law and misconduct. After he was administratively suspended from the practice of law, Mr. Snapp undertook representation in a personal injury/wrongful death lawsuit. He associated with another lawyer to assist in the case; however, he did not tell his client or the other lawyer of his suspension. After the case had settled, Mr. Snapp misappropriated \$50,000.00 from his client and led co-counsel to believe that his client had been paid in full. Several months later, his co-counsel discovered that Mr. Snapp was suspended and had not paid their client the full amount owed. After he was confronted, Mr. Snapp re-paid the funds and disgorged the fees he took for the representation.

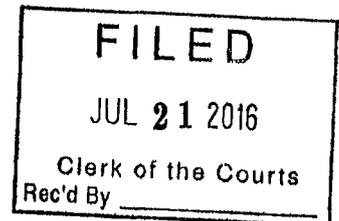
A Hearing Panel held that Mr. Snapp's ethical misconduct violates Rules of Professional Conduct 1.15 (safekeeping property and funds), 5.5 (unauthorized practice of law) and 8.4 (c) (misconduct).

Mr. Snapp must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 28 (2014) and Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Section 30.4 (2014), regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement. The Supreme Court's Order is effective immediately.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: THOMAS ALAN SNAPP, BPR #13962
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee
(Sullivan County)

No. M2016-01459-SC-BAR-BP
BOPR No. 2015-2437-1-AJ



ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Thomas Alan Snapp on April 7, 2015; upon the Answer to Petition for Discipline filed by Mr. Snapp on June 9, 2015; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered on April 1, 2016; upon service of the Judgment on Mr. Snapp by the Executive Secretary of the Board on April 5, 2016; upon the Order assessing costs on Mr. Snapp entered April 25, 2016; upon service of the Order assessing costs on Mr. Snapp by the Executive Secretary of the Board on April 26, 2016; upon consideration and approval by the Board on June 10, 2016; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

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

On August 22, 2011, Mr. Snapp was administratively suspended from the practice of law for non-payment of registration fees and IOLTA non-compliance. On August 31, 2011, Mr. Snapp was administratively suspended from the practice of law for CLE non-compliance. To date, Mr. Snapp has not requested, nor been granted, reinstatement.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

- (1) Thomas Alan Snapp is suspended from the practice of law for five (5) years pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.2.
- (2) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Snapp must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this suspension until the date of reinstatement;

and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(3) Additionally, Mr. Snapp shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4 regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(4) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(5) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Snapp shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$880.76 and 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.

(6) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.11.

PER CURIAM