



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

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**IN RE: STEVEN MONROE TEMPLE, BPR #15894**  
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**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
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February 8, 2005

**LAW LICENSE OF MEMPHIS ATTORNEY SUSPENDED**

On February 3, 2005, the Supreme Court of Tennessee entered an Order suspending the law license of Steven Monroe Temple for a period of one year retroactive to October 28, 2003, the date upon which he was first suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Temple abandoned his law practice without notice to his clients, charged excessive fees, failed to withdraw from his clients' cases when he could no longer represent the clients, failed to adequately communicate with his clients and failed to return unused portions of retainer fees. As a result of his failure to respond, Temple's law license has been temporarily suspended since October 28, 2003.

Disciplinary Counsel filed a petition for discipline and a supplemental petition for discipline pursuant to Rule 9, Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Temple agreed to enter into a conditional guilty plea to the petitions in exchange for a one year suspension retroactive to October 28, 2003 the date upon which he was first suspended by the Tennessee Supreme Court and Temple agreed to make restitution as a condition precedent to reinstatement as follows:

Michael Adams	\$4,300.00
Nathan Wilson	750.00
Robert Lee Williams	450.00
James Dotson	2,500.00

Temple has entered into a monitoring contract with Tennessee Lawyers' Assistance Program.

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.

LLC:mw